

# NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

# Summary of

# Hunting Regulations

July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015



Muskox © C.L. Koizumi | GRRB



Northwest Territories Environment and Natural Resources



Report a Poacher!

1-866-POACHER

This booklet is not a legal document nor a complete listing of the current hunting regulations. The hunting maps are not legal documents but are included for reference to give a general outline of hunting areas in the Northwest Territories (NWT).

Amendments to regulations will be made after the printing of this booklet. For more information and updates, contact a Renewable Resource Officer near you, or check our website.

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (ENR) has various booklets and videos you may find useful while visiting the NWT, such as *Safety in Black and Grizzly Bear Country* and *A Field Guide to Common Wildlife Diseases in the NWT and Nunavut*. Please visit our website for further information on how to obtain copies of these documents.

For a complete list of Territorial Hunting Regulations visit our webpage at [www.enr.gov.nt.ca](http://www.enr.gov.nt.ca).

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## A NEW WILDLIFE ACT

A new *Wildlife Act* (the Act) will be coming into force in the 2014/15 hunting season. Several changes will be made in the new Act and its related regulations that will affect hunters in the Northwest Territories.

- Residency requirement for a resident hunting licence will be one year;
- Hunters will need to successfully complete a harvester training program unless exempted in the regulations;
- Minimum age to obtain a hunting licence will be reduced to 12 years of age. Youth under 18 must be accompanied by an adult hunter while hunting;
- Youth between 12 and 18 may hunt under the authority of an adult hunter's licence;
- The regulations will define wastage for different types of game;
- Offences and punishments (fines and jail time) have been increased for individuals, companies, and repeat offenders; and,
- Regulation updates may be coming in the future to small game and big game harvesting areas.

A plain language version of the Act is available (visit: [www.enr.gov.nt.ca](http://www.enr.gov.nt.ca)) and fact sheets on specific areas to help people understand how changes will affect them will be developed. The regulations necessary to bring the Act into force will be developed over the summer and fall 2014 and there will be opportunities for the public to review and comment before they are finalized. A new *Northwest Territories Summary of Hunting Regulations* booklet will be mailed to every person who received a hunting licence prior to the new Act coming into force.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

During the hunting season, Renewable Resource Officers inspect hunters for compliance with hunting regulations at check points, border crossings, and in hunting areas throughout the NWT.

The regulations summarized in this booklet apply to hunters who require a resident, non-resident or non-resident alien hunting licence to hunt.

### NWT Residency Requirements

- 1) NWT Resident: a Canadian citizen or landed immigrant who has been living in the NWT for at least two years.
- 2) Non-resident: a Canadian citizen or landed immigrant who lives outside the NWT or has not resided in the NWT for a full two years.
- 3) Non-resident Alien: an individual who is neither an NWT resident nor a non-resident.

### Age Requirements

A licence to hunt big game will not be issued to anyone under the age of 16 years. A licence to hunt small game may be issued to a person between 14 and 16 years of age.

If a person intends to hunt small game in the NWT and is 14 or 15 years old, in addition to possessing a small game hunting licence:

- a) they must be accompanied by a parent or guardian who holds a hunting licence for small game, and
- b) the parent or guardian must endorse the application and licence for small game.

Parents or guardians who endorse the application are responsible for the activities of a minor while hunting.

### Do You Need an Outfitter?

Non-residents and non-resident aliens require an outfitter to hunt big game (but not small game). Outfitters provide licenced guides for the hunters they serve. For information on outfitters in the NWT, contact **NWT Tourism** (see back page).

### Your Licence

You must have a hunting licence to hunt small game. To hunt big game you need a hunting licence and wildlife tag(s).

Wildlife tags are issued for each species. The tags are part of your licence and must be attached to the animal immediately after the kill. Your hunting licence and wildlife tags must be carried with you when hunting.

Licences and tags may be purchased from most ENR offices in the NWT. In Yellowknife and some of the larger communities, licences and tags may also be purchased from vendors. However, big game licences and tags for big game species hunted by non-residents and non-resident aliens may **only** be purchased at ENR offices.

A licence is not valid until signed by the person to whom it has been issued. A licence is not transferable.

Licences and tags are issued for one year starting 1 July and ending 30 June. The licence is valid for a species only during an open season for that species.

If you lose your licence, you must report this loss to a Renewable Resource Officer who will, after you have signed an affidavit, issue a replacement for a fee of \$20 plus GST. If you lose tags, the replacement cost for each is the same as the price for the original.

### Fees

**Licence/Tag Fees:** for all classes of hunters, fees must be paid before you go hunting.

**Trophy Fees:** must be paid by non-resident and non-resident aliens before a harvested animal, or any part thereof, is exported from the NWT.

(see pages 18 – 32 for specific fee information)

**All fees are subject to the 5% Goods and Services Tax.**

### Ethics

Responsible hunting has an honourable history, great traditions and a code of ethical conduct that extends beyond hunting laws. If hunting is to continue as a respected and honourable activity, hunters must take ethics and responsibility seriously. The privilege to hunt carries with it responsibility to other people, wildlife and the environment.

Do not chase or harass wildlife while hunting. Only shoot what you will use and do not waste meat from animals you harvest.

Please leave the area you hunt in looking the same way it did before you arrived. Pack out your trash and equipment and do not damage the land with your vehicles. If you are hunting on private lands within an area with a settled land claim, you must ask permission first.

Please dispose of any parts you leave behind on land and not on the winter roads or frozen lakes. This ensures that once the ice melts, the remains do not fall into the water, possibly polluting the area. Gut piles can also pose a safety concern for people travelling on the ice or winter roads. As well, it is considered a sign of respect in some cultures to leave the remains of land animals on the land and not in the water.

Be a safe hunter and respect other hunters in the field. Know the hunting regulations and report any and all violations to the nearest Renewable Resource Officer or the Report a Poacher line at 1-866-762-2437.

### NWT Barren-ground Caribou Management Strategy for 2011-2015

Caribou are one of the most important resources in the Northwest Territories. Like many species, caribou numbers fluctuate over time. Recent surveys and information from traditional knowledge indicate that caribou herds are still low in number across much of the NWT. Given this information, the Government of the Northwest Territories, working in cooperation with wildlife co-management boards, is taking action to ensure that caribou herds throughout the NWT are able to increase in size again.

The 2011-2015 Strategy describes monitoring and management actions that support the continued recovery of NWT's barren-ground caribou populations.

The strategy is available online at [www.enr.gov.nt.ca](http://www.enr.gov.nt.ca) or by contacting your nearest Regional ENR Office (see Contact Information at the end of the guide).

## The Caribou Hunters – A Video

The Fort Smith Métis Council, in conjunction with ENR, has produced a video titled *The Caribou Hunters*. This video, available on VHS and DVD, is intended to show hunters one way of hunting, skinning and butchering caribou in an efficient and ethical way. For a free copy of this video, please contact your nearest Regional ENR Office (see Contact Information).

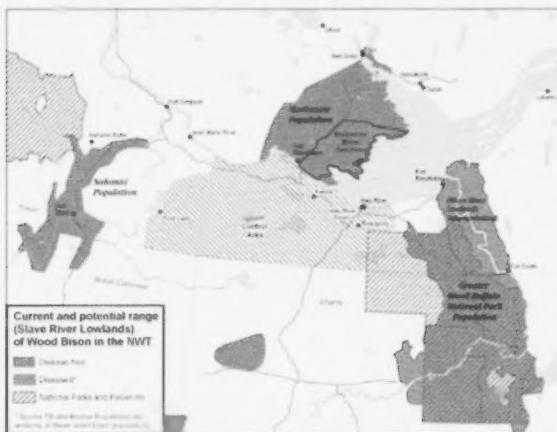
## If You See a Bison in the Control Area...

In the Northwest Territories, two populations of wood bison have been re-established and are disease-free. The Mackenzie population has about 700 animals and represents one of the cornerstones in the nation's wood bison recovery program. The Nahanni population now numbers about 400 animals.

The greater Wood Buffalo National Park population, which includes bison in the Slave River Lowlands, is infected with bovine tuberculosis and brucellosis. In 1987, the Bison Control Area (BCA) was created to prevent the spread of these diseases to the healthy Mackenzie and Nahanni populations. The BCA program is jointly funded by the Parks Canada Agency and the Government of the Northwest Territories.

All bison in the BCA are presumed to be diseased and must be removed and tested.

For more information on the BCA, please visit the ENR website at [www.enr.gov.nt.ca](http://www.enr.gov.nt.ca).



Please report any bison sightings in the BCA as soon as possible to the nearest ENR office.

Under the Northwest Territories wildlife regulations, a resident may, at anytime, hunt bison within the BCA. A hunter who wounds or kills a bison in the BCA is required to report the incident as soon as practical.

If you would like more information regarding the Bison Control Program, please contact any ENR office.

Phone Hay River (867) 875-5550, Fort Providence (867) 699-3002, Fort Smith (867) 872-6400, Fort Simpson (867) 695-7450, or Fort Liard (867) 770-4351.

## ATTENTION RESIDENT HUNTERS

### We Need Your Help

#### NWT Resident Hunter Harvest Surveys

Each fall, an NWT Resident Hunter Harvest Survey is sent to all Resident Hunters who purchased a resident big or small game hunting licence during the previous hunting season. The survey asks hunters to provide information about hunting effort and harvests. The next questionnaire will request information about the previous hunting season.

The information you provide in the Resident Hunter Harvest Survey is necessary for effective wildlife management in the Northwest Territories. The survey results provide insight into hunting activities and success, composition of the harvest, wildlife management area use and estimated total harvests. This information is vital for understanding factors affecting northern species and helps wildlife managers make the best decisions possible.

The following is an example of the type of information collected in the questionnaire.

DID YOU HUNT MOOSE? Yes  No   
If yes, were you successful? Yes  No

Please provide the following data -  
whether your hunt was successful or not.

#### Type of kill

Hunt Location Lat/Long or nearest landmark	Wildlife Zone	Month of Hunt	# Days Hunted	Bull	Cow	Juvenile
63° 5' 115° 30' Mosher Lake	R-BC-01	Sept.	3	1		

Some points to consider regarding this survey:

1. All information provided is confidential. Personal information is NOT kept on file. No information provided will be used for enforcement purposes;
2. It is just as important to complete and return the form if you did not hunt, or if you hunted and were unsuccessful. For unsuccessful hunts, information on number of days hunted and location of hunt is valuable; and
3. Take notes when you hunt on numbers harvested, dates, and locations. Provide any additional comments on wildlife sightings or unusual occurrences using the questionnaire.

We appreciate the efforts made by Resident Hunters who have completed the survey in the past. The more people who respond to this survey, the more accurate the estimate of total resident harvest will be. It is this relationship between responsible hunters and wildlife management agencies that will allow the sustainable continuation of the hunting tradition. Thank you.

Some of your results are summarized in the next pages. Complete results will be sent with your questionnaire in the fall.

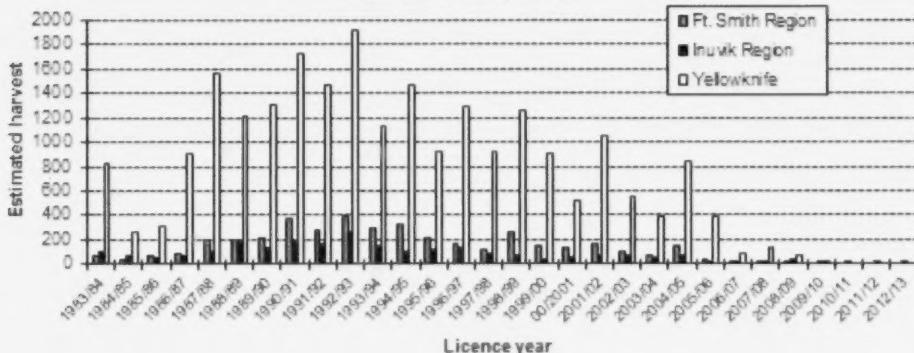
Should you have any comments or questions about the survey or its results please contact us at:

Wildlife Division  
Environment and Natural Resources  
Box 1320  
Yellowknife, Northwest Territories X1A 2L9  
(E-mail) [wildlifeobs@gov.nt.ca](mailto:wildlifeobs@gov.nt.ca)  
(Phone) 867-920-6327

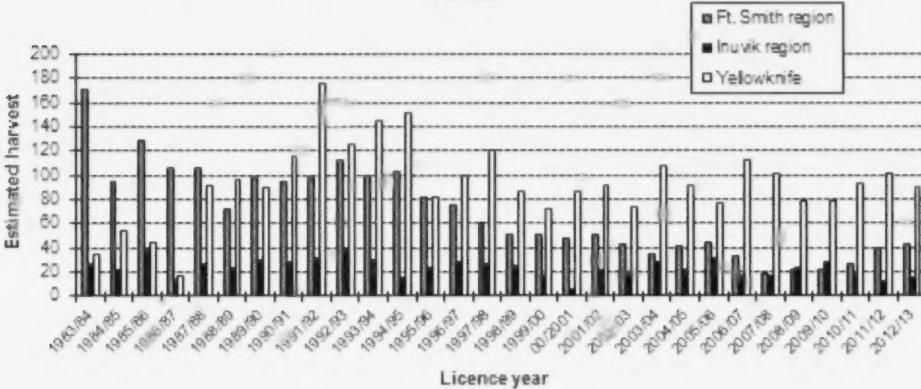
Thank you for hunting safely and responsibly.

## NWT Resident Hunter Harvest Survey Results

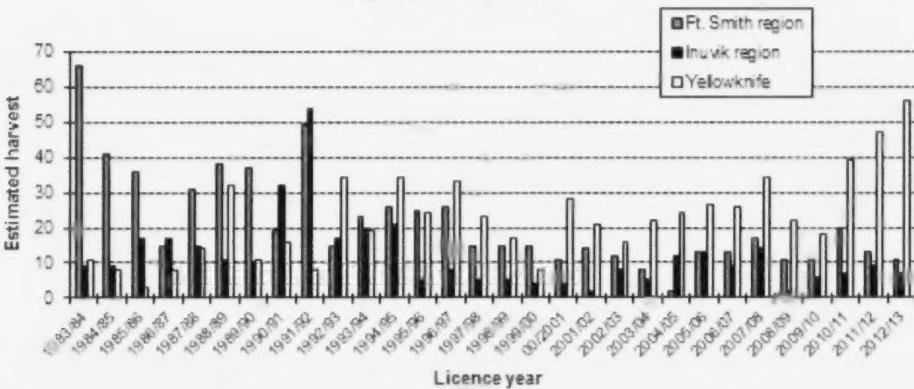
Barren ground caribou



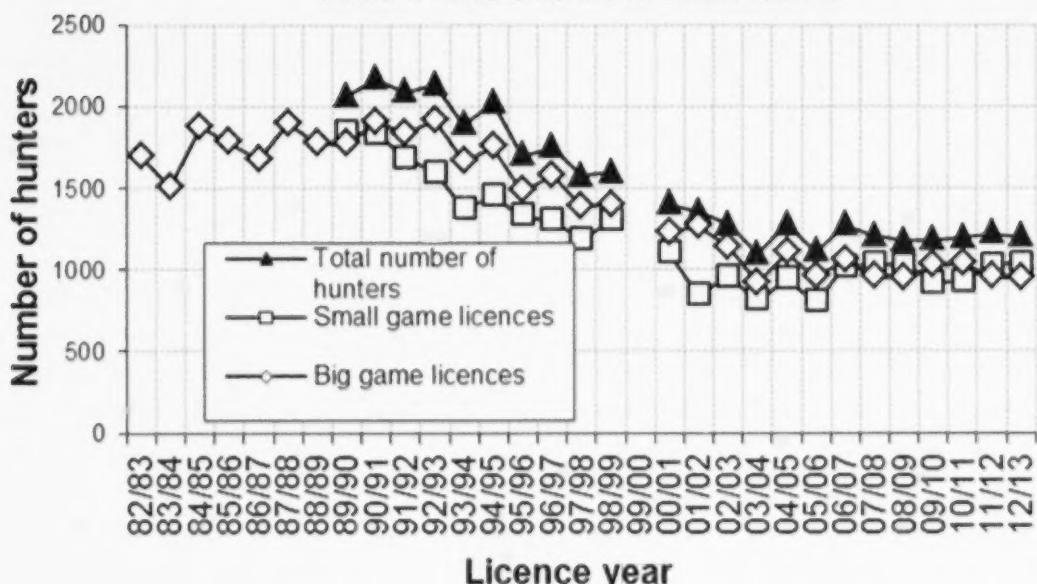
Moose



Woodland Caribou



# NWT Resident Hunters



## SUMMARY OF HUNTING REGULATIONS

### General Prohibitions

**No one may chase, harass or molest wildlife.**

Anyone who wounds wildlife shall make every reasonable effort to retrieve it.

**It is an offence to waste, destroy, abandon or allow to spoil:** the meat of big game, other than bear, wolf or wolverine, and the raw pelt or hide of any fur-bearing animal, including bears. With regards to ungulates, the following are not considered waste if they are left behind; the head, the legs below the knee joints and the internal organs. Bones, including rib bones, that are stripped of meat may also be left behind. The shot damaged parts of the carcass may also be cut away and left behind. Shot damaged means:

- a) meat that has been torn by the shot or by bone broken by the shot,
- b) meat that has become blood-clotted as a result of the shot.

It is an offence to waste or allow to spoil edible meat from a diseased animal (see section of Diseased Animals on page 6).

**No one shall hunt wildlife without due regard for the safety of other people and property.**

No person shall hunt or discharge a firearm from, or within, a motorized vehicle. In addition, no person shall have in, or on, a vehicle a firearm that has any propellant powder, projectile or cartridge that can be discharged in the breech or firing chamber.

**No one shall discharge a firearm from, along or across a public road.**

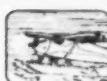
No one shall transport wildlife within the NWT unless it was killed under a licence that has not been invalid for more than ten (10) days or he or she has been issued a Wildlife Transport Permit.

**The rules of hunting are designed to ensure that people hunt safely and that wildlife will be conserved for future generations. Should an individual be convicted of an offence, he or she could receive a fine and/or a jail sentence for each offence and for each day that the offence continues. Firearms, equipment and wildlife seized from the person could be ordered forfeit and the person's licence could be suspended or cancelled.**



## Bow Hunting

Bow hunting is permitted in the NWT and is subject to the same regulations as hunting with a firearm. Draw weight must be at least 20 kg at 700 mm draw. Arrows must have a broadhead point width of at least 25 mm at the widest point or a barbless three-bladed bodkin head and must not contain any explosive. Crossbows may be used for hunting in the NWT.



## Use of Aircraft

If you are flying in Muskox (S/MX/01) and Caribou (R/BC/01) Management Areas, you must wait 12 hours after landing before hunting. If you are flying within the Outfitter Areas in the Mackenzie Mountains, you must wait 12 hours after landing before hunting any big game. This is to prevent aircraft from giving hunters more than a sporting chance. It does not stop licensed outfitters from making preparations for the hunt.



## Evidence of Sex

Where hunters are required to take males only, they must retain evidence of sex: for caribou, muskox and wood bison, the testicles or scrotum; for moose, the head, testicles or scrotum; for Dall's sheep, the horns must remain attached to the head and the eye sockets must be intact; and for polar bear and grizzly bears, the baculum.



## Where to Attach Tags

Remember that tags are your authority to possess game. They must be attached as soon as you have killed your animal and remain attached until it is consumed or processed. Tags cannot be reused.

Residents are issued one tag for every animal they intend to hunt. This tag must be attached to the carcass of any big game killed except muskox, bear, wolf and wolverine. For these four species, the tag must be attached to the hide.

Non-residents and non-resident aliens are issued two identically numbered tags for each animal they intend to hunt. One tag must be attached to the carcass and the other to the horns, antlers, head or cape. However, for muskox, bear, wolf and wolverine only one tag is issued and must be attached to the hide of the animal they kill.

Anyone who shoots a Dall's sheep must, as soon as possible, take the head to a Renewable Resource Officer to have a plug inserted into the horns.



## Tagged or Collared Animals

To better manage our resources, certain species of big game are being monitored and may be tagged or wearing a radio collar. Although it is not illegal to shoot them, please try to avoid shooting these animals when possible. If an animal taken is wearing a radio collar or ear tag, we ask that you return these to the local Renewable Resource Officer. We ask that you report any sightings to the nearest Renewable Resource Officer, giving them any information they may require such as the condition of the animal, location, etc. For a list of animals currently being studied, please check with a Renewable Resource Officer prior to your hunt.

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources may request a small tissue or hide sample from harvested wildlife in some areas. Your cooperation is appreciated while these studies are being conducted.

## Diseased Animals

Although most wild animals are healthy, diseases and parasites can occur in any wildlife population. Some diseases, such as rabies in foxes and brucellosis in caribou, occur regularly in the NWT. Parasites such as tapeworm cysts and sarcocystis in meat and hydatid cysts in lungs are not uncommon in big game species. Some of these diseases can infect domestic animals or humans.

If you shoot a sick animal, take the following precautions: do not cut into diseased parts; wash your hands and knives when finished butchering; and do not feed the meat or organs of infected animals to dogs. Take samples and notes from the sick animal and report to the nearest Renewable Resource Officer. Report all observations of diseased wildlife to the nearest Renewable Resource Officer. They are the only ones authorized to dispose of diseased animals.

## Problem Bears

In the Northwest Territories, it is legal to shoot a bear in self-defence only when life or property is threatened. You must report the kill to the nearest Renewable Resource Officer as soon as possible. In most cases, the Officer will come to the site and take possession of the bear. If an Officer is not immediately available, you must skin the bear and preserve the hide by salting it and storing it in a cool, dry place or by freezing it. It is an offence to allow the hide to spoil. The hide, complete with claws, becomes the property of the government and must be turned in, along with the skull (or lower jaw) to a Renewable Resource Officer at the first opportunity. Proof of sex (baculum) should also be turned in, particularly for grizzly and polar bears. You may not keep any part of a bear killed in self-defence.

## Muskox and Wood Bison Tag Allocations

### Muskox Draws

Muskox tags are available to residents for Muskox Wildlife Management Area S/MX/01 and U/MX/01 through a yearly draw. Applications for the yearly draw are available after April 1 from the local ENR office. Applications must be postmarked before May 15 and received before the draw date. The draw will be held each year before June 1. Tags will not be awarded to a person that has received a tag for any of the previous four seasons. For more information, please contact the local Renewable Resource Officer.

### Wood Bison Draws

All harvesting for wood bison in management areas R/WB/01, D/WB/03 and D/WB/04 has been closed effective November 1, 2012. For more information please contact your local Renewable Resource Officer.

### Possession of Wildlife

Licenced hunters are entitled to possess all the meat and wildlife parts they legally harvest. Resident, non-resident and non-resident alien hunters must keep their tags and licence as proof of legal possession until all meat is consumed. Resident, non-resident and non-resident alien hunters may not sell their meat without a permit or commercial tag. General Hunting Licence (GHL) holders may buy, sell, barter, or gift game meat to another person who is eligible to hold a GHL. Any other sale of meat by a GHL holder requires a permit or commercial tag. All hunters can sell, trade or gift the inedible parts of wildlife that they have lawfully harvested under the authority of a licence.

Hunters may give away game meat but must provide a receipt stating their name and licence number, the date of the transaction, the species of game the meat came from and the weight of the meat. A person who does not hold a GHL may not receive more than 10 kgs of meat from a GHL holder over a 60-day period.

The provisions of the land claim agreements govern the exchange of meat and wildlife parts by land claim beneficiaries.

## EXPORTING WILDLIFE FROM THE NWT

It is an offence to remove any wildlife or wildlife parts, other than a manufactured product, from the NWT unless you have a Wildlife Export Permit. This includes legally harvested game, a gift of meat from a hunter, legally purchased meat, untanned furs and raw hides, ducks or geese, antlers, skulls, teeth, bones or any other parts of an animal. The wildlife parts must be presented for inspection when the export permit is being obtained. The Wildlife Export Permit is required before any items can leave the NWT. Permits will not be issued after the items have been exported.

There is no fee for an export permit. However, non-resident and non-resident alien hunters are required to pay a trophy fee when exporting big game they have harvested.

Certification is required before exporting Dall's sheep horns from the NWT. Other species that may require certification are: birds of prey, grizzly bear, polar bear and muskox.

The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Fauna and Flora (CITES) was established to control the import and export of species that are considered to be rare or endangered. A CITES permit is required for all parts of the following big game species leaving Canada: grizzly bears, black bears, polar bears, wood bison, and wolf. You must have a CITES permit for these harvested animals before you leave Canada. Many countries have restrictions on the importation of certain species of wildlife. To avoid confiscation of items, check about regulations with a wildlife or customs agency of the country you plan to import into.

There are exemptions that allow an individual to export or import some tourist souvenirs items acquired during the trip, if the item is part of the individual's clothing or accessories or personal accompanied baggage. The item must not be for commercial purposes and cannot be sold or disposed of within 90 days after the date of import or export.

CITES permits are available from any regional ENR office. It may take several days to obtain a CITES permit, so apply well in advance.

As CITES permits regulate the export of wildlife from Canada rather than the NWT, you may also need a wildlife export permit.

## SPECIAL AREA CONDITIONS

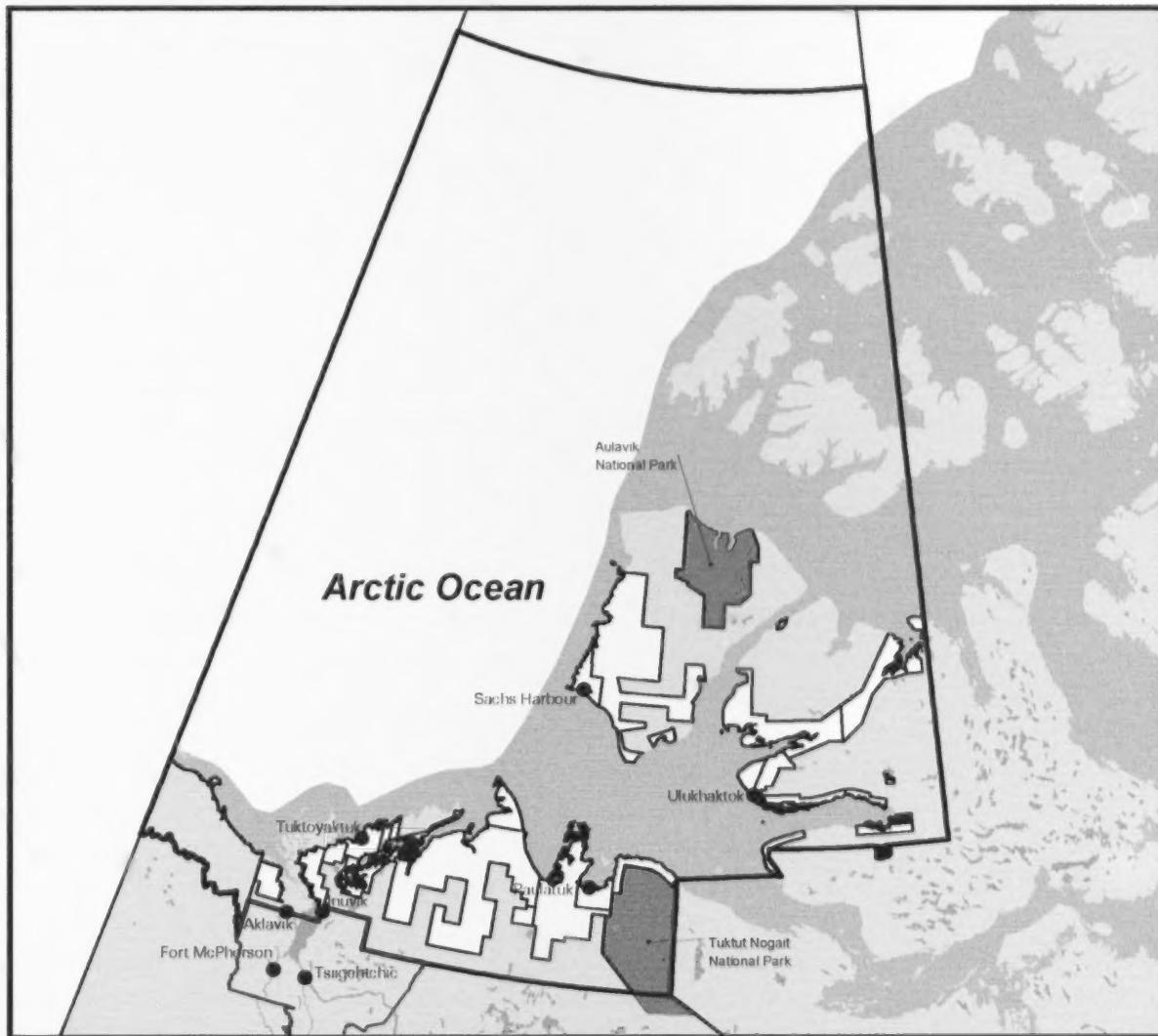
### Inuvialuit Settlement Region (ISR)

Hunting in the ISR is subject to terms and conditions in accordance with the Inuvialuit Final Agreement. Non-beneficiaries must ask permission before hunting on private lands within the ISR (see map below). Non-beneficiaries must receive permission from the local Hunters and Trappers Committee (HTC) before hunting grizzly bear, polar bear, black bear, muskox, wolf, and wolverine anywhere within the ISR.

For further information contact the Inuvialuit Land Administration at 867-977-7100, the applicable HTC office: **Aklavik** 867-978-2723, **Inuvik** 867-777-3671, **Olokhaktomiu** (**Ulukhaktok HTC**) 867-396-4808, **Paulatuk** 867-580-3004, **Sachs Harbour** 867-690-3028, or **Tuktoyaktuk** 867-977-2457, and/or your local Renewable Resource Officer in Inuvik (867-678-6650).

### Inuvialuit Settlement Region in the NWT

All private lands in the ISR are shown in white.



## SPECIAL AREA CONDITIONS

### Gwich'in Settlement Area (GSA)

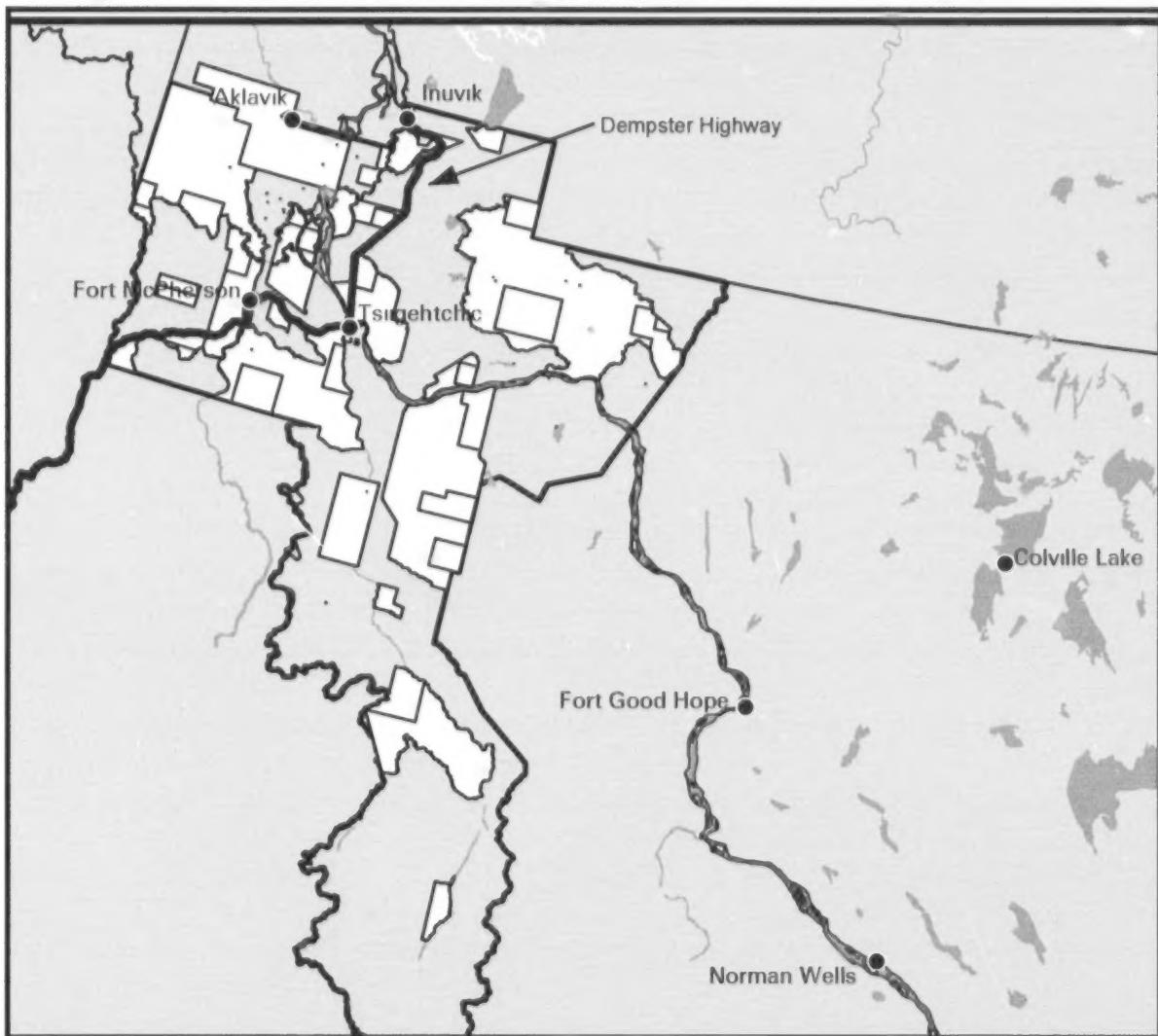
Hunting in the GSA is subject to terms and conditions in accordance with the Gwich'in Comprehensive Land Claim Agreement. Non-beneficiaries must ask permission before hunting on private lands within the GSA (see map below). Persons wishing to hunt moose in a Special Harvesting Area are required to obtain permission from the local Renewable Resource Council (RRC).

For permission to hunt on private lands in the GSA, contact the Gwich'in Tribal Council (Gwich'in Land Administration Office) in Inuvik at 867-777-7913, the Gwich'in Renewable Resources Board in Inuvik at 867-777-6600 and the applicable RRC: Ehdiitat (Aklavik) 867-978-2336, Tettit (Fort McPherson) 867-952-2330, Nihtat (Inuvik) 867-777-6652, or Gwichya (Tsiigehtchic) 867-953-3608.

For further information on sport hunting in the GSA, contact the local Renewable Resource Officer in Inuvik (867-678-6650).

## Gwich'in Settlement Area in the NWT

All private lands in the GSA are shown in white.



## SPECIAL AREA CONDITIONS

### Sahtu Settlement Area (SSA)

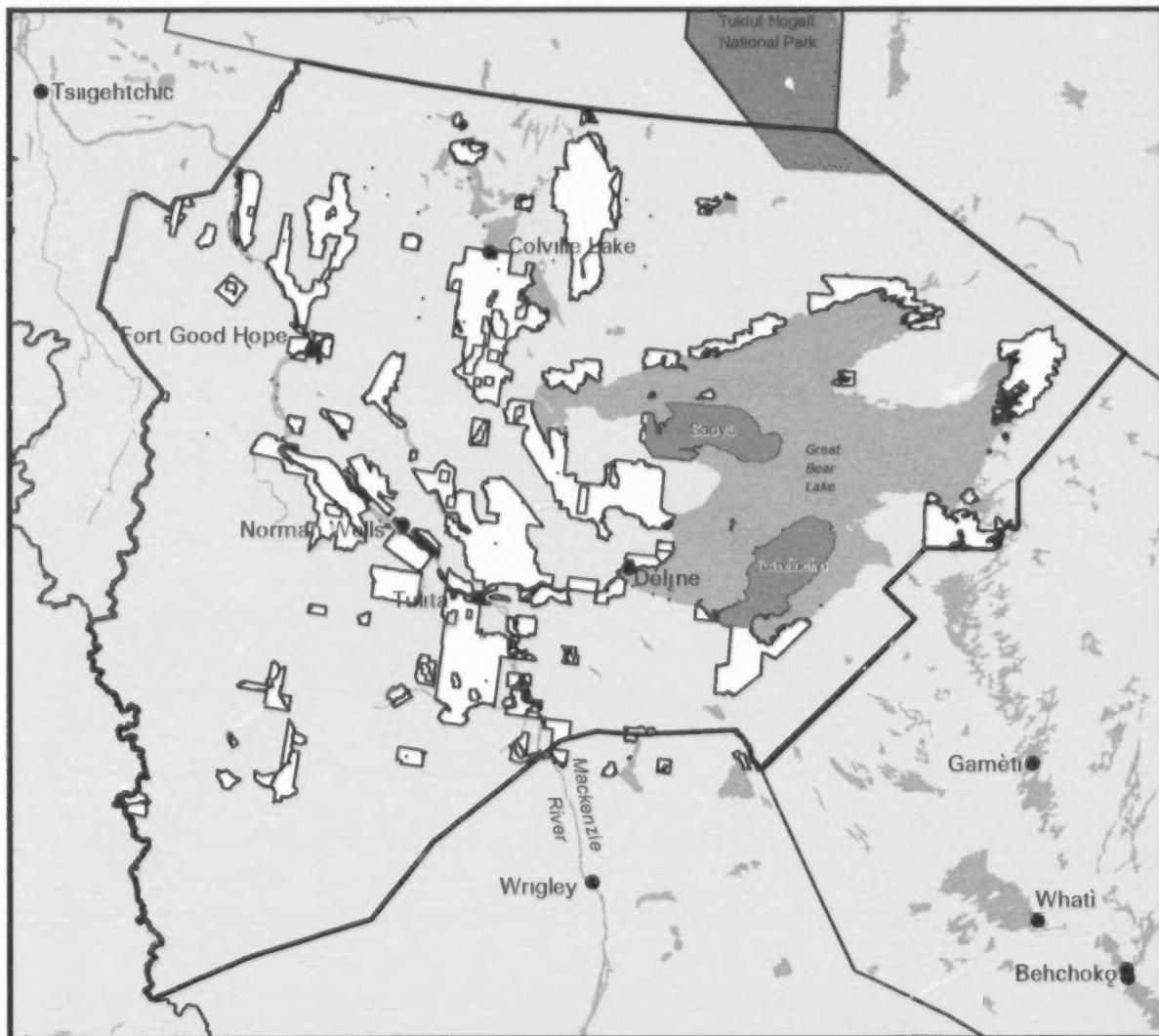
Hunting in the SSA is subject to terms and conditions in accordance with the Sahtu Dene-Métis Comprehensive Land Claim Agreement. Non-beneficiaries must ask permission before hunting on private lands within the SSA (see map below).

Please note that some of the islands in Great Bear Lake (Parcels 61, 64, 65, 66, 67, 75, 89 and 90) do not show at the present map scale. Please visit the closest Renewable Resource Council or local ENR office for more detailed information of the area.

For further information or for permission to access Sahtu private lands, contact the applicable Land Corporation(s): **Norman Wells** (867-587-2455), **Délina** (867-589-8100), **Fort Good Hope** (867-598-2193), **Colville Lake** (867-709-2700) or **Tulita** (867-588-3734); the Sahtu Renewable Resources Board (867-588-4040); or the local Renewable Resource Officer in Norman Wells (867-587-3500).

## Sahtu Dene and Métis Settlement Area in the NWT

All private lands in the SSA are shown in white.



## SPECIAL AREA CONDITIONS

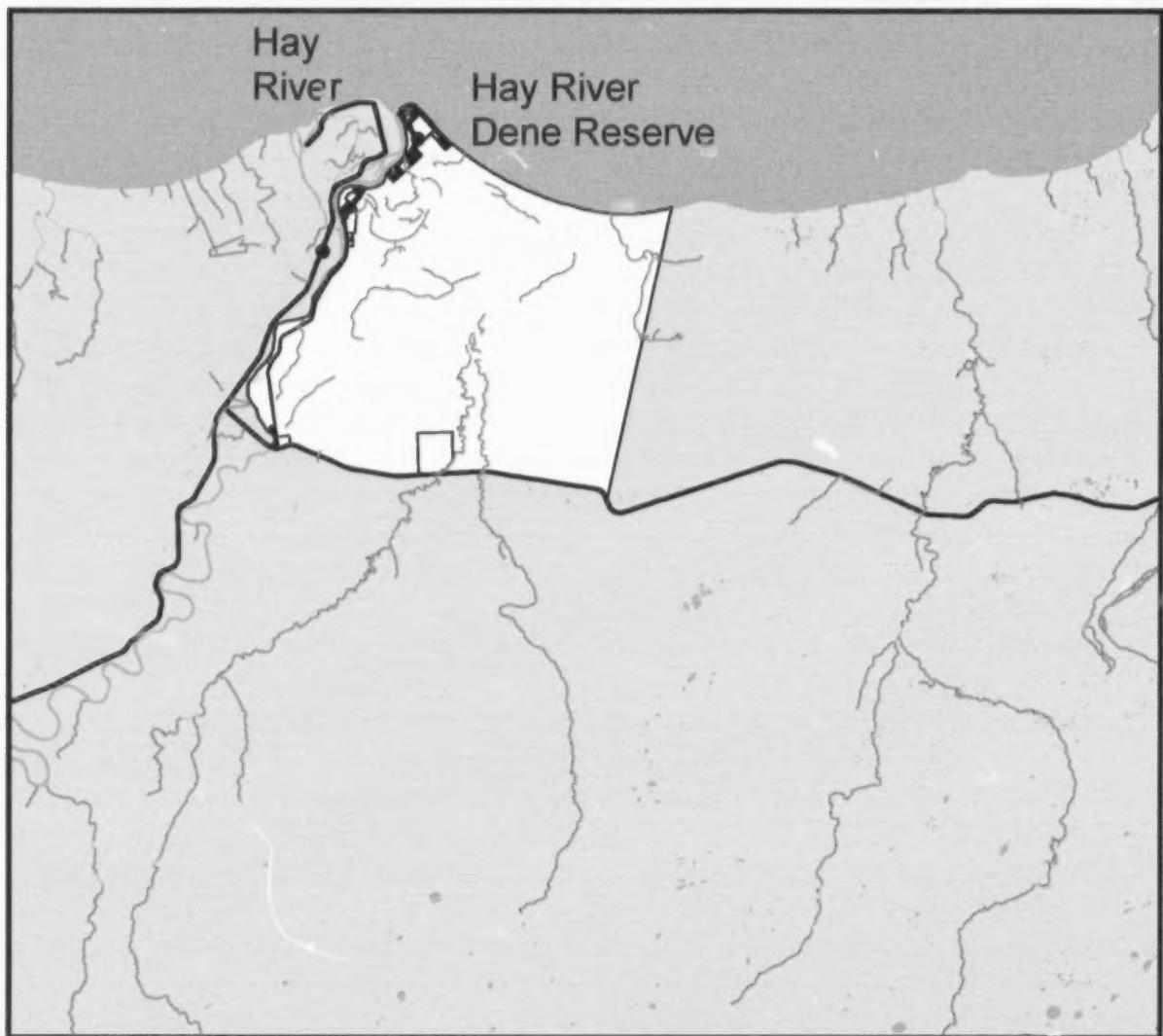
### Hay River Reserve

Provisions of the Indian Act apply to reserves and Indian Act bands may have established their own requirements applicable to hunting on reserves.

For further information, contact the K'atlodeeche First Nation (867-874-6701) and/or your local Renewable Resource Officer in Hay River (867-875-5550).

### Hay River Dene Reserve in the NWT

All federally reserved lands in the HRDR are shown in white.



## SPECIAL AREA CONDITIONS

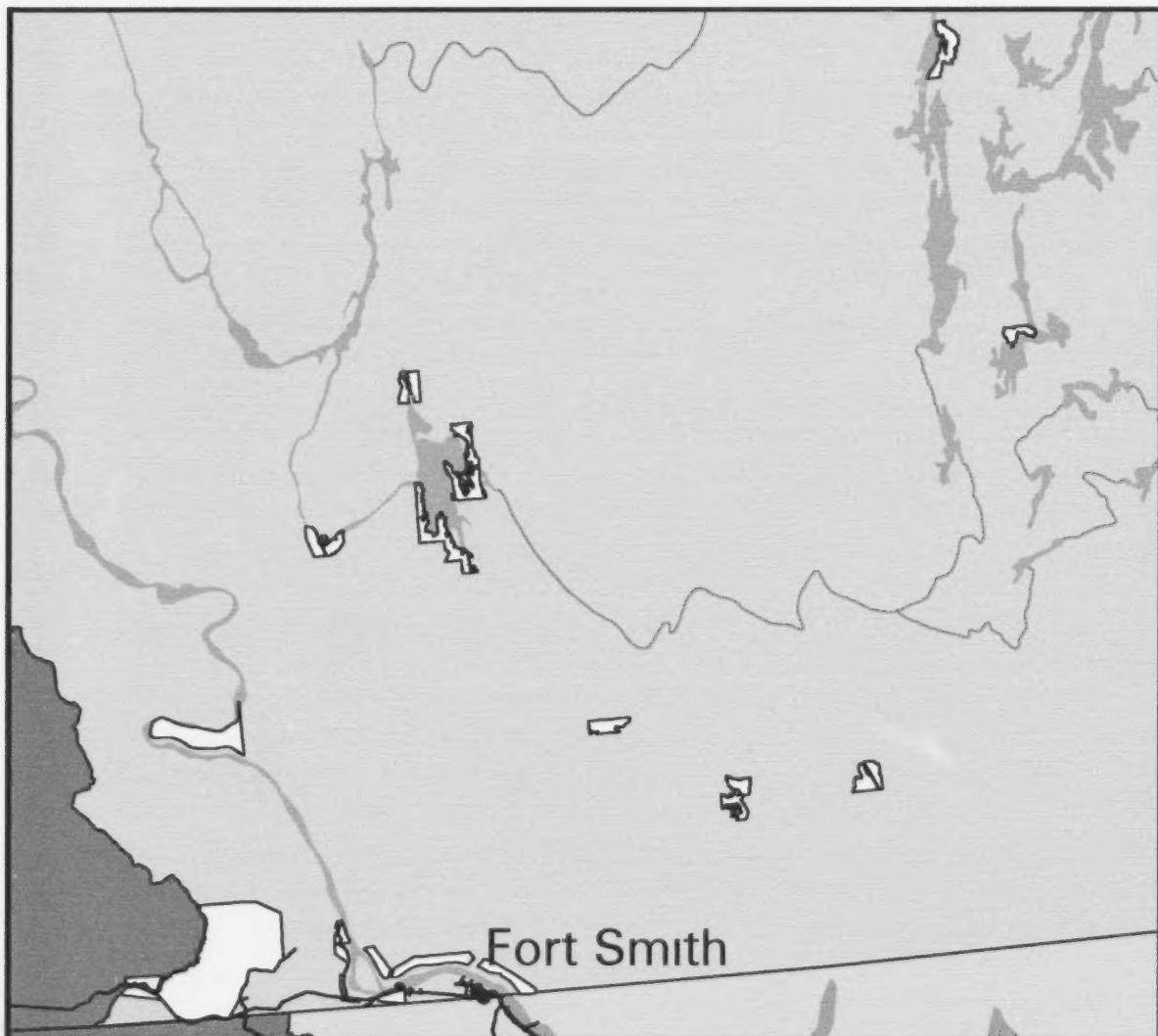
### Salt River Reserve

Provisions of the Indian Act apply to reserves and Indian Act bands may have established their own requirements applicable to hunting on reserves.

For further information, contact the Salt River First Nation #195 (867-872-2986) and/or your local Renewable Resource Officer in Fort Smith (867-872-6400).

## Salt River First Nation Reserve and Salt Plains Indian Reserve No. 195 in the NWT

All reserve lands set aside for the SRFNR and SPIR 195 are shown in white.



## SPECIAL AREA CONDITIONS

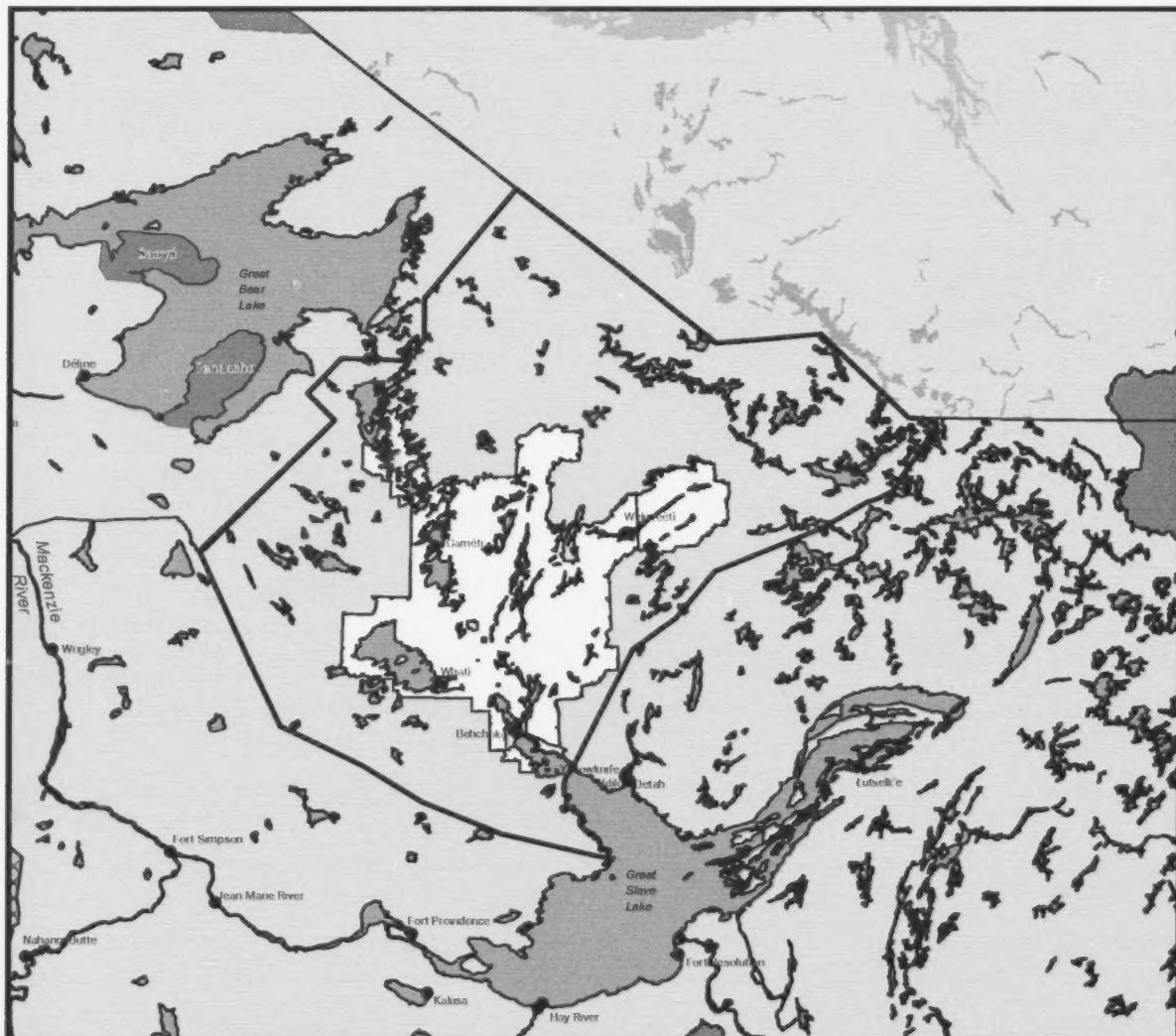
### Wek'èezhìi and Tłı̨chǫ Lands

Hunting in the Wek'èezhìi Management Area and on Tłı̨chǫ Lands is subject to terms and conditions in accordance with the Tłı̨chǫ Agreement.

For further information, contact the Lands Protection Department of the Tłı̨chǫ Government (867-392-6381) or the Wek'èezhìi Renewable Resources Board (867-873-5740) and/or your local Renewable Resource Officer in Behchoko (867-392-6511).

## Tłı̨chǫ Wek'èezhìi Management Area in the NWT

All private lands in the TWMA are shown in white.



## Ingraham Trail Development Area

The Department of Municipal and Community Affairs (MACA) has established an area along the Ingraham Trail in which the discharge of a firearm is prohibited within 1.5 km of either side of the centre line. This is in effect year round.

This area was created to afford leaseholders and people enjoying recreational activity protection from firearm use. For details regarding this area, please contact the North Slave ENR Office (see Contact Information).

## SANCTUARIES AND PARKS

### Territorial Parks

Hunting is not permitted within Territorial Parks in the NWT.

### Wildlife Sanctuaries and Preserves

Although firearms may be carried for protection, hunting is prohibited in a sanctuary or preserve. Bows or crossbows may not be taken into a wildlife sanctuary.

Wildlife Sanctuaries: Thelon Wildlife Sanctuary U/WS/01

Preserves: Norah Willis Mitchener Wildlife Preserve D/WP/01 and Peel River Preserve G/WP/01

### National Parks, Park Reserves, and Protected National Historic Sites

As prescribed in federal legislation, residents, non-residents and non-resident aliens are not permitted to hunt in the national parks and national park reserves of the NWT. In Nahanni National Park expansion area, outfitted hunting is allowed.

National Parks: Wood Buffalo, Tuktut Nogait, Aulavik

National Park Reserves: Nahanni, Nááts'ihch'oh

Protected National Historic Sites: Saoyú and ʔehdacho

For more information, please visit <http://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/PDF/SOR-82-263.pdf> and <http://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/PDF/SOR-81-613.pdf>.

### Migratory Bird Sanctuaries

The hunting of migratory birds is not permitted in migratory bird sanctuaries. For a list of federal Migratory Bird Sanctuaries and regulations pertaining to them, contact:

Canadian Wildlife Service  
5019 - 52nd Street  
Yellowknife, NT X1A 2P7  
Office: (867) 669-4765 or 1-800-668-6767  
Fax: (867) 873-6776

or visit their web page: [www.ec.gc.ca](http://www.ec.gc.ca)

## MIGRATORY BIRDS CONVENTION ACT

To hunt migratory birds (ducks, geese, coots, rails or snipes), you must first obtain a Migratory Game Bird Hunting Permit and a Habitat Conservation Stamp. These are available from any Canada Post office. Information on seasons, bag limits and fees is available from the Canadian Wildlife Service (CWS) or outlined in a brochure that can be obtained from a post office. This information can be found on the CWS publications web page: [www.ec.gc.ca](http://www.ec.gc.ca)

## FIREARMS INFORMATION

Requirements for firearm licences and registration are governed by the federal Firearms Act. Check with the Canadian Firearms Centre (1-800-731-4000) or [www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca](http://www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca) for more information.

### Firearms and Ammunition

When hunting big game in the NWT, you must use .23 or larger calibre ammunition. The empty cartridge case of the ammunition must be greater than 44 mm in length. North of the treeline in Wildlife Management Units I and U, there is an exception to this for caribou, wolf and wolverine where .222, .22-250 and .223 calibers are permitted. To hunt wood bison, bullet size must not be under 200 grains.

For the purpose of hunting big game, rim fire ammunition is illegal.

Ammunition containing non-expanding bullets, steel-jacketed bullets or tracer ammunition may not be used for hunting.

When hunting small game and migratory game birds, no one may use a shotgun that holds more than three shells in the magazine and firing chamber combined.

### Toxic Shot

In 1999, CWS implemented legislation that prohibits possession of anything but non-toxic shot for the purpose of hunting migratory game birds. For more information, contact CWS or your local ENR office, or visit the CWS web site: [www.ec.gc.ca](http://www.ec.gc.ca).

### Importation of Firearms

Certain firearms are classified as prohibited firearms and are not allowed into Canada. For a list of prohibited firearms and further information on the importation of firearms, contact the Canadian Border Services Agency, a Canadian Embassy, or:

Chief Firearms Officer  
Alberta and Northwest Territories District Office  
Suite 720, 10909 Jasper Avenue  
Edmonton, AB T5J 3L9  
Phone: 1-800-731-4000  
Fax: (780) 495-7970

or visit the Canadian Border Services Agency web site at [www.cbsa-asfc.gc.ca](http://www.cbsa-asfc.gc.ca)

## Firearm Safety

Please remember firearms can be dangerous tools. Use the following tips to help you safely enjoy your hunting trip:

- Treat every firearm as if it were loaded.
- Always control the muzzle of your firearm.
- Be sure of your target and beyond.
- Never shoot at a flat hard surface, including water.
- Never point a firearm at anything you don't want to shoot.
- Never climb, run or jump with a loaded firearm.
- Lock up firearms and ammunition separately.
- Be sure the barrel is clear of obstructions.
- Unload firearms when not in use.
- Avoid alcohol before and during a hunt.

## HOW TO USE THE HUNTING TABLES AND MAPS

All maps included in this brochure are for reference purposes only; they are **not** legal documents. More detailed topographical maps can be purchased from:

Centre for Topographic Information  
Natural Resources Canada  
Customer Support Group  
2144 King Street West, Suite 010  
Sherbrooke, QC J1J 2E8  
(P) 1-800-661-2638 or 1-819-564-4857  
(F) 1-819-564-5698  
(E-mail) [geoginfo@NRCan.gc.ca](mailto:geoginfo@NRCan.gc.ca)

Boreal Books  
PO Box 1220  
Inuvik, NT XOE 0TO  
(P) 1-867-777-3748  
(F) 1-867-777-4429  
(E-mail) [manager@borealbooks.com](mailto:manager@borealbooks.com)

MSS Ltd.  
P.O. Box 4623  
Hay River, NT X0E 0R6  
(P) 1-888-397-0886 or 1-867-874-6337  
(F) 1-800-661-0886 or 1-867-874-3866  
(E-mail) [contact@mssltd.com](mailto:contact@mssltd.com)  
Website: <http://www.mssltd.com>

Holders of resident, non-resident and non-resident alien hunting licences are prohibited from hunting in any Territorial Park, Wildlife Sanctuary or Preserve, National Park, or Park Reserve. These protected areas are shaded dark grey on the Wildlife Management Unit Maps (see page 16 for more information). Hunting regulations are changing in new protected areas; these areas are shown as cross-hatched on the Wildlife Management Unit Maps.

The NWT is divided into six wildlife management units. The maps on pages 16 and 17 of this booklet outline these units represented by the letters D, G, I, R, S and U.

Within the wildlife management units, species management areas for certain animals are represented by a two-letter code and two-digit number:

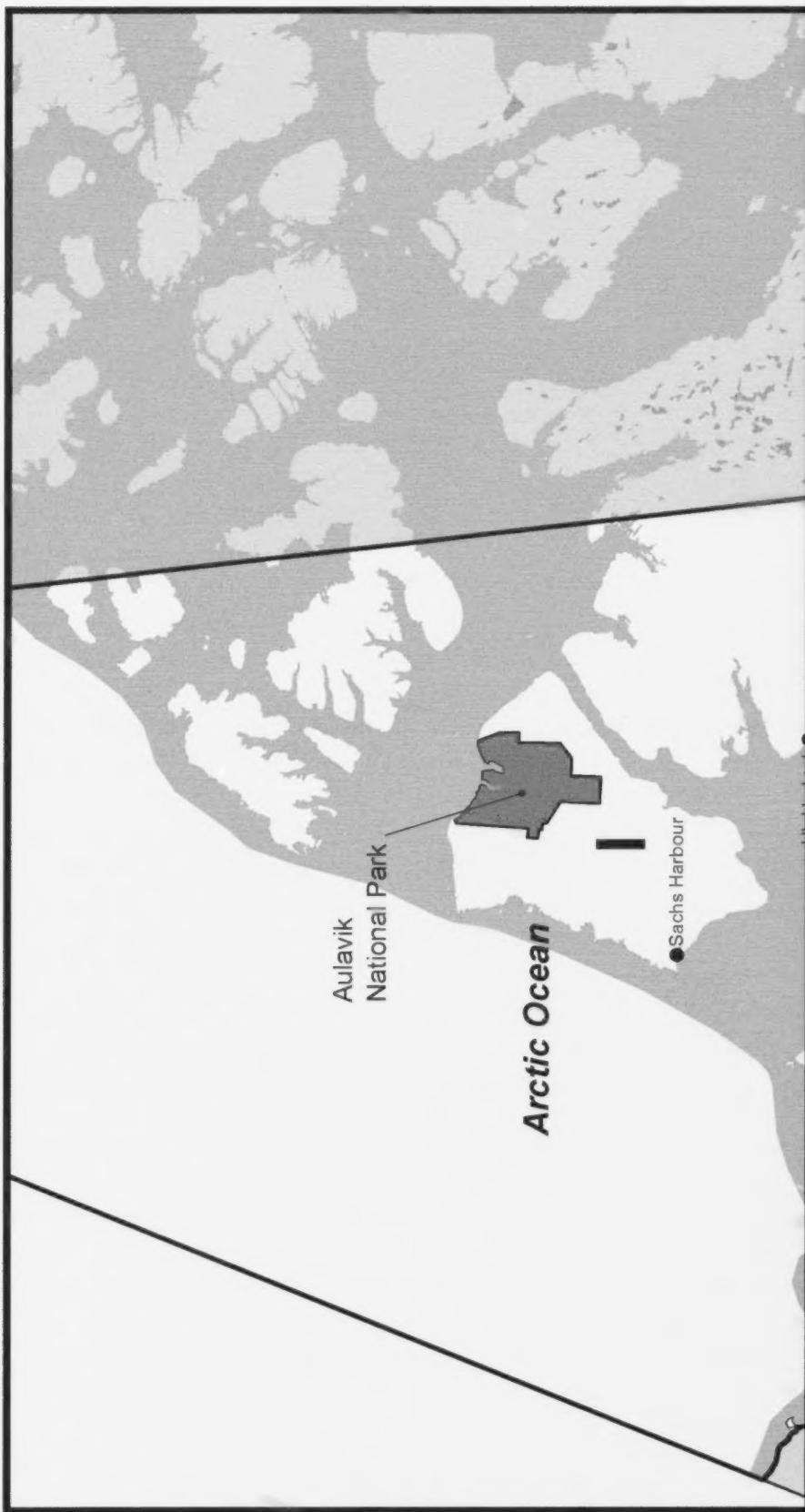
- PB polar bear
- GB grizzly bear
- WB wood bison
- BC barren-ground caribou
- MX muskox
- WF wolf
- WV wolverine

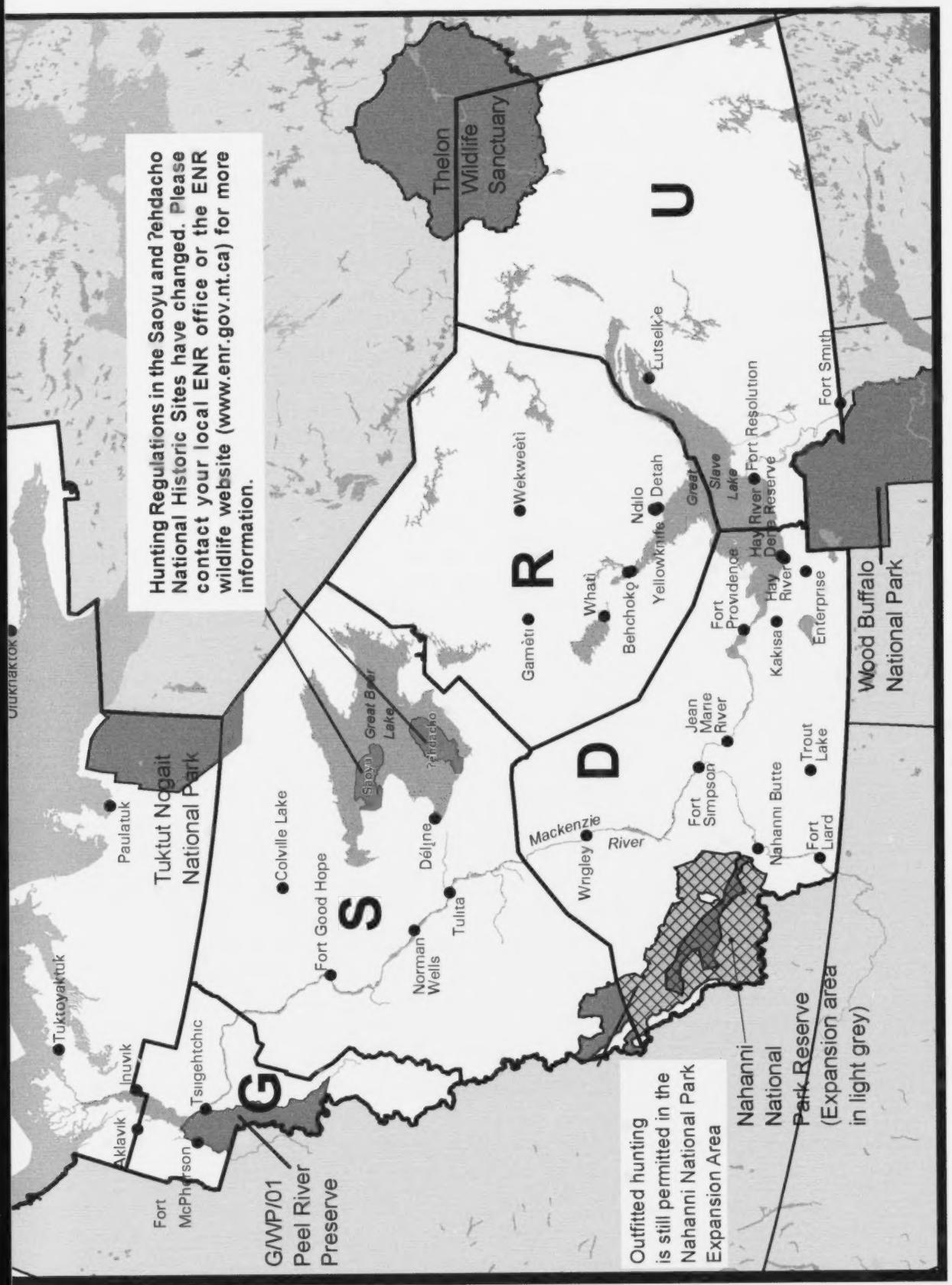
Maps of the hunting areas for different species in the wildlife management units are also illustrated.

Examples of how to interpret the coding of the different hunting area names:

- D                   hunting is allowed in all of unit D for the specific animal  
I/MX/01-04       muskox hunting is allowed in areas 01, 02, 03 and 04 of unit I  
G/OT/01           outfitter hunting is allowed in area 01 in unit G

# Wildlife Management Units of the Northwest Territories



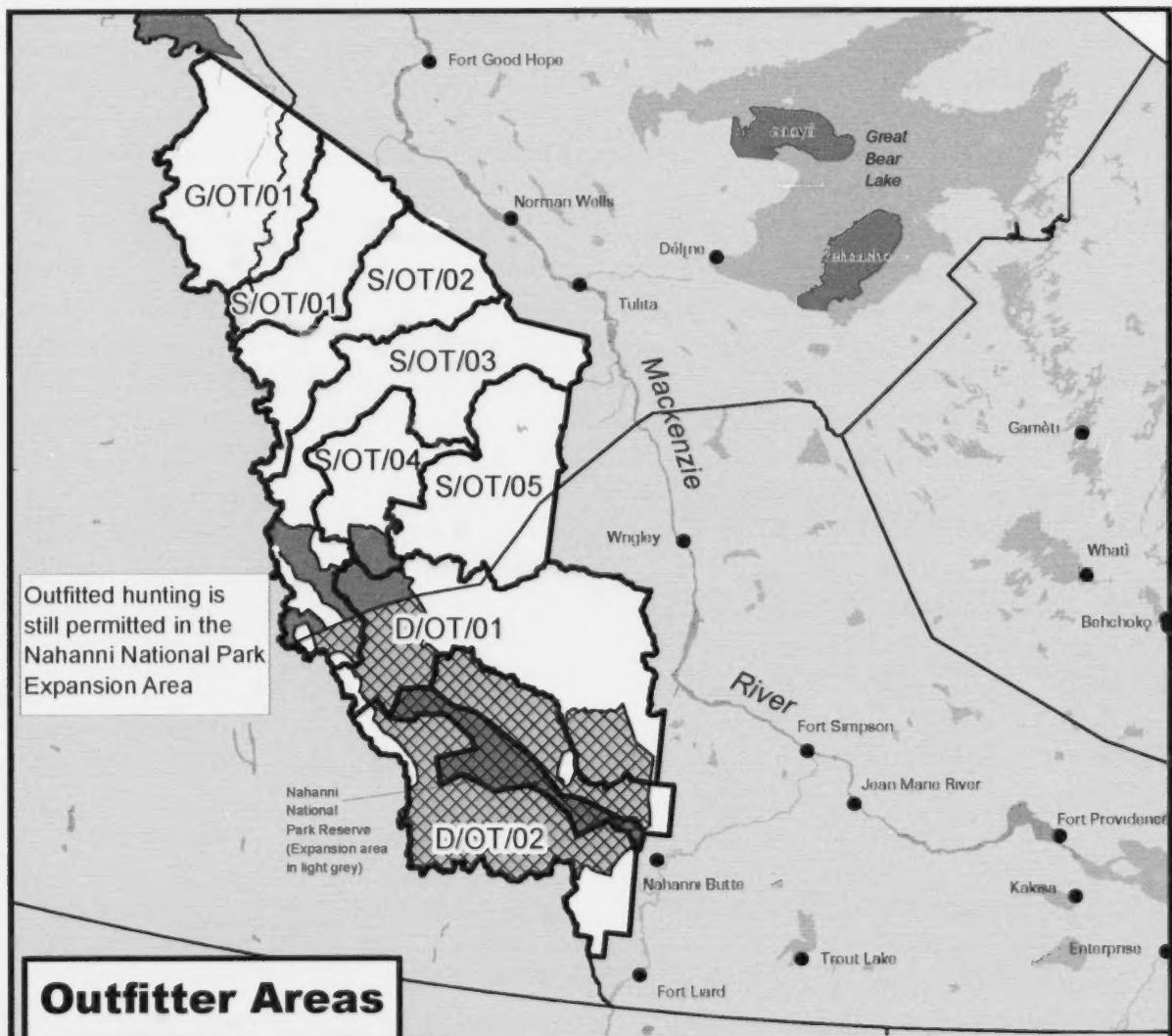


## OUTFITTERS MANAGEMENT AREA MAP

In the Mackenzie Mountains in wildlife management units D, G and S, there are eight hunting areas referred to as outfitter areas. These management areas are represented by the wildlife management unit letter, followed by the two-letter code OT and a two-digit number. Similar to all other hunting areas in the NWT, **resident hunters do not require an outfitter to hunt in these areas.**

In the expansion area of Nahanni National Park Reserve, outfitted hunting is permitted. For more information contact Nahanni National Park Reserve at 867-695-7750 or nahanni.info@pc.gc.ca.

This map shows the detailed outfitter areas in the NWT. These management zones apply to non-resident and non-resident alien hunters who plan to hunt black bear, grizzly bear, woodland caribou, mountain goat, moose, Dall's sheep, wolf and/or wolverine. Contact **NWT Tourism** for a list of licenced outfitters (see back page).



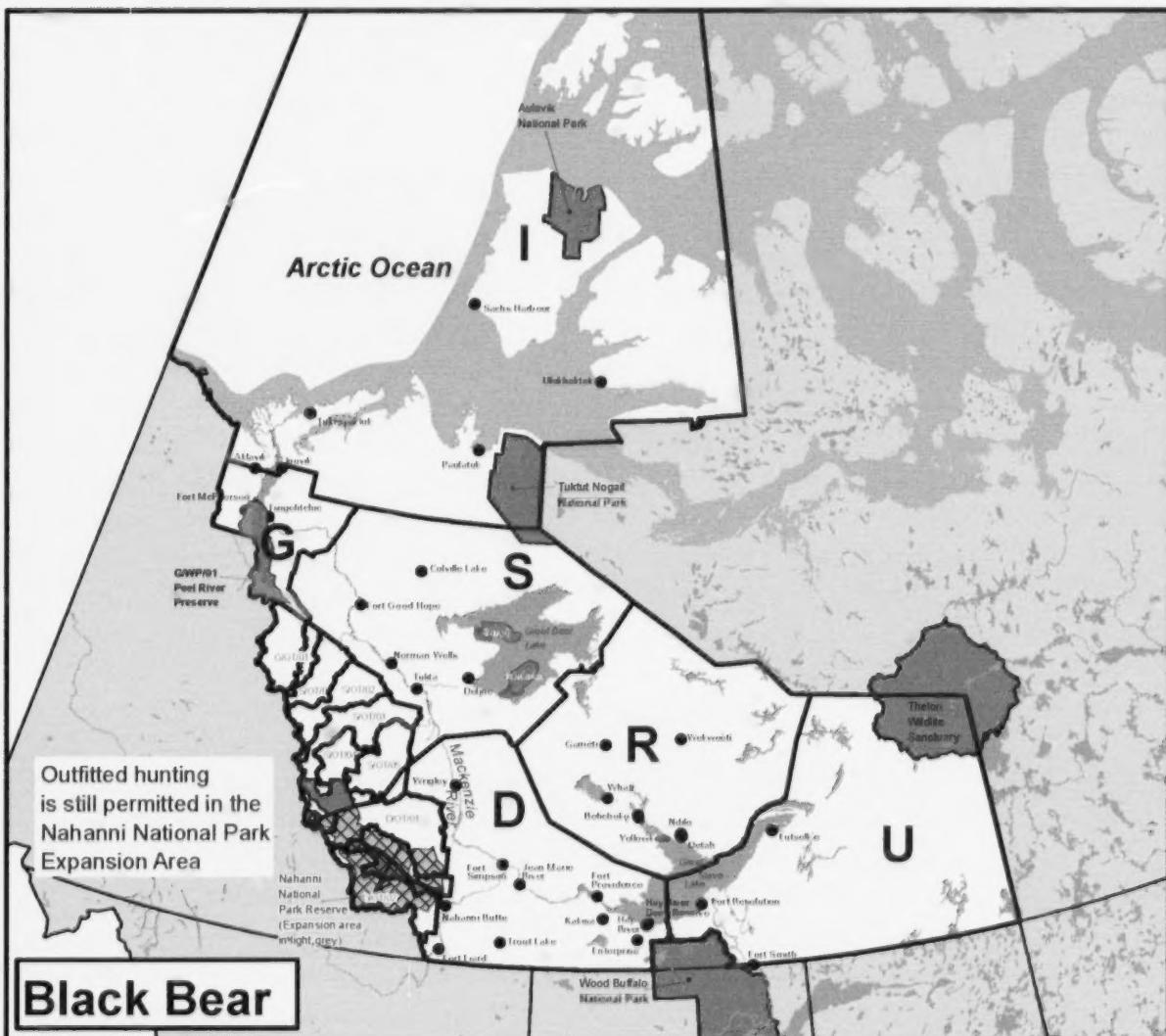


## BLACK BEAR

	TAG FEE	TROPHY FEE	BAG LIMIT	SEASON	HUNTING AREA
Resident	20.00	N/A	ALL HUNTERS one adult bear not accompanied by a cub*	15 Aug – 30 June	D, G (except G/WP/01), I, R, S, U
Non-resident	40.00	200.00		15 Aug – 31 Oct	D/OT/01 – 02, G/OT/01, S/OT/01 – 05 (see outfitters map page 15)
Non-resident Alien	100.00	200.00		15 Aug – 30 June	R, S, U

\* A black bear cub has a hide measuring less than 1.2 m from tip of the nose to the end of tail when fresh, and less than 1.6 m when stretched and dried.

- Non-beneficiaries must receive permission to hunt black bear anywhere in the ISR. For more information, contact the applicable offices in the ISR – see page 7.





## GRIZZLY BEAR

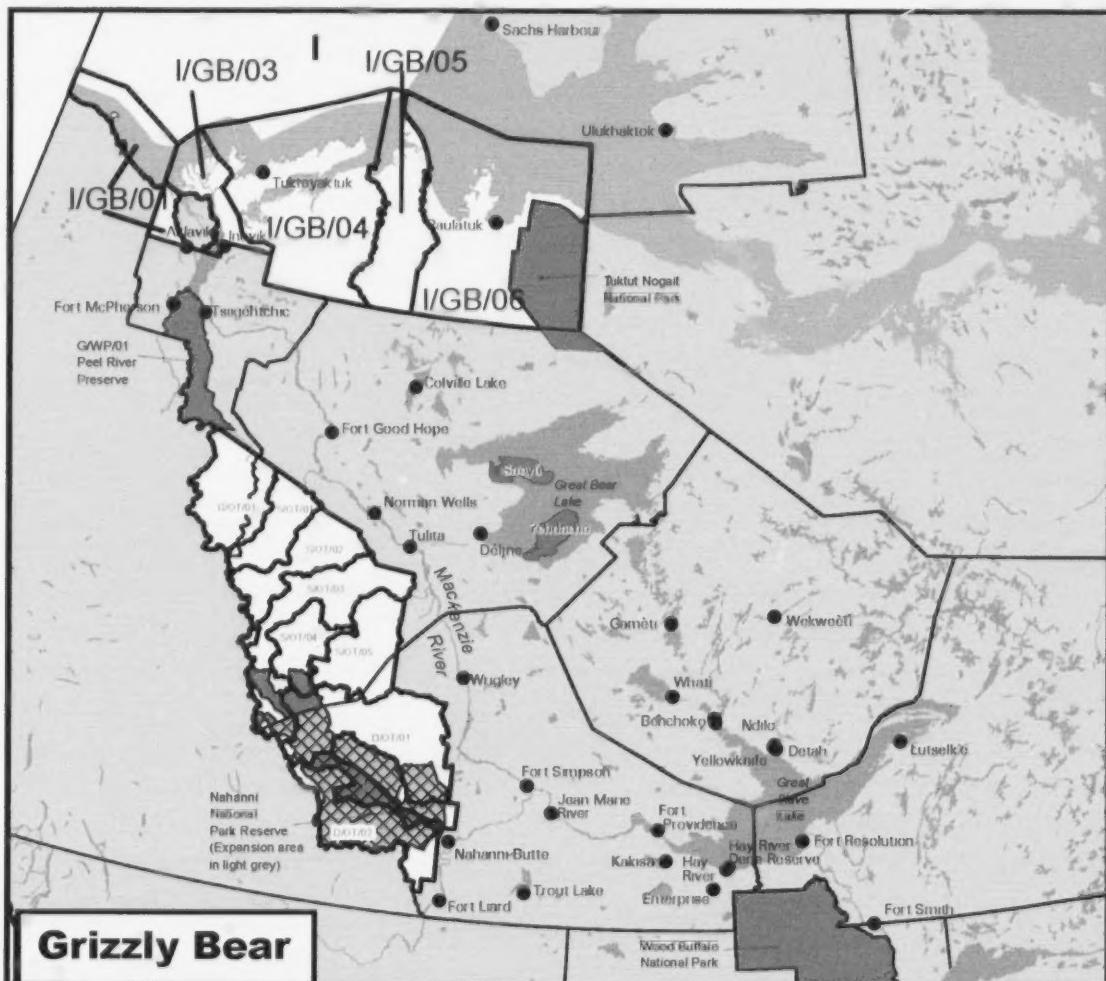
	TAG FEE	TROPHY FEE	BAG LIMIT	SEASON	HUNTING AREA
Resident	20.00	N/A	*one adult bear not accompanied by a cub* or in a den (only one per lifetime of hunter)	15 Aug – 31 Oct	D/OT/01–02, G/OT/01, S/OT/01–05 (see outfitters map page 15)
Resident	20.00	N/A	<sup>2</sup> ALL HUNTERS any number of adult bears not accompanied by a cub* or in a den in accordance with the number of tags held	ALL HUNTERS	ALL HUNTERS
Non-resident	40.00	2000.00		31 Aug – 31 Oct and 15 Apr – 31 May	I/GB/01*, I/GB/03*, I/GB/06*
Non-resident Alien	100.00	2000.00		1 Sept – 31 May	I/GB/04*, I/GB/05*

\* A grizzly bear cub has a hide measuring less than 1.4 m from the tip of the nose to the end of the tail when fresh, and less than 1.6 m when stretched and dried.

<sup>1</sup> If an unsuccessful resident grizzly bear tag holder fails to return their tag by 15 November, they shall be deemed to have killed a bear and no further tags will be issued to that individual.

<sup>2</sup> All hunters who buy grizzly bear tags are asked to complete a questionnaire regardless of the hunt's outcome. Unsuccessful hunters must return unused tags immediately after the hunt.

\* Non-beneficiaries must receive permission to hunt grizzly bear anywhere in the ISR. For more information, contact the applicable offices in the ISR – see page 7.



## POLAR BEAR

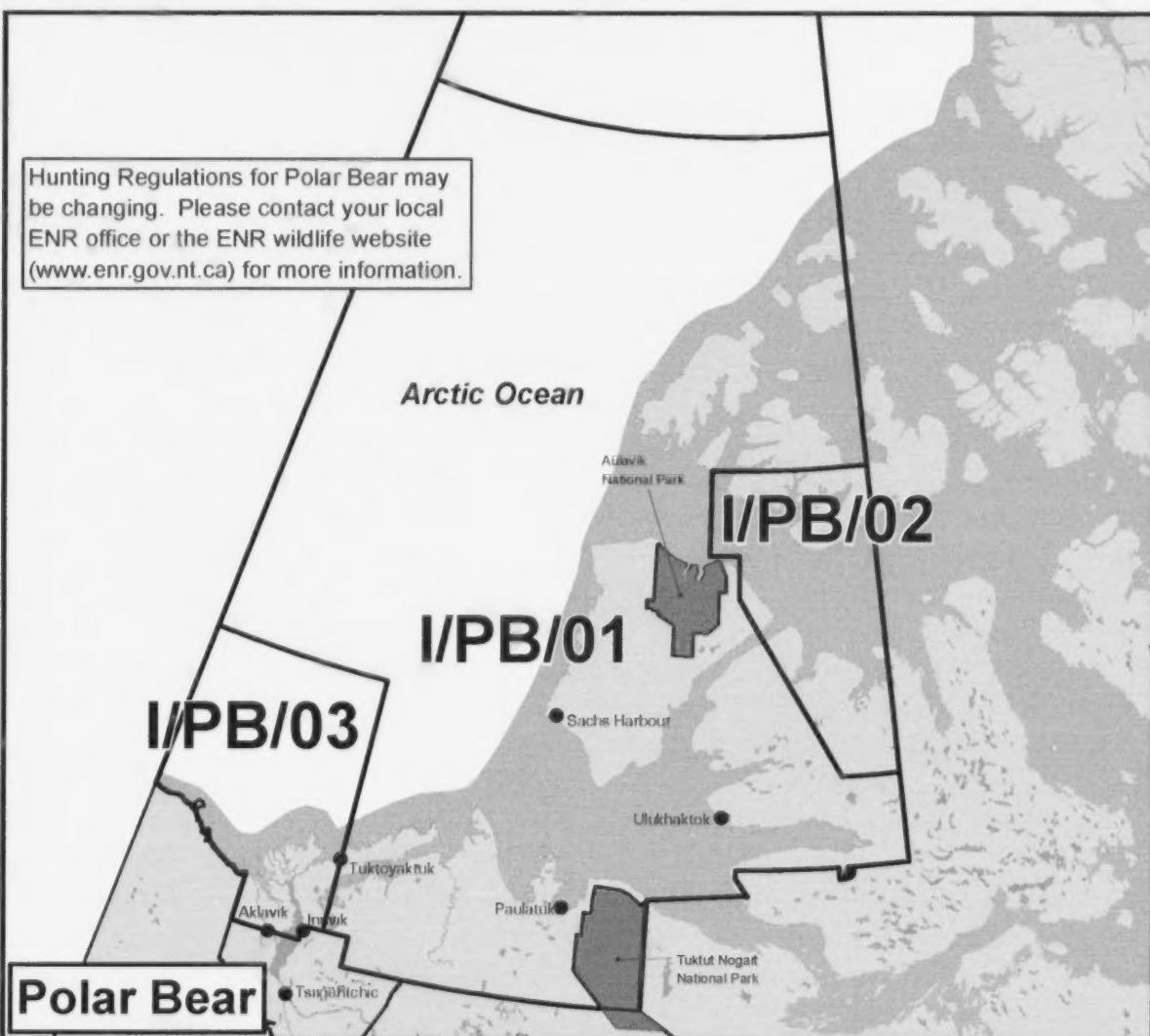


	TAG FEE	TROPHY FEE	BAG LIMIT	SEASON	HUNTING AREA
Resident	20.00	N/A	ALL HUNTERS any number of adult bears not accompanied by a cub* or in a den in accordance with the number of tags held	ALL HUNTERS	ALL HUNTERS
Non-resident	40.00	1500.00		1 Oct – 31 May	I/PB/01*
Non-resident Alien	100.00	1500.00		1 Jan – 31 May	I/PB/02*
				1 Dec – 31 May	I/PB/03*

\*The holder of a hunting licence may only hunt polar bear by dog team or on foot. Ammunition and firearms for a hunt must meet prescribed requirements. A successful hunter must provide information on the date and location of the kill and turn in the lower jaw or undamaged post-canine tooth, evidence of sex and any lip tattoos and ear tags present. An unsuccessful hunter must return unused tags immediately after the hunt.

\* A polar bear cub is a bear that is less than one year old as determined by the number of growth rings in the post-canine tooth. In the ISR, a polar bear cub is defined as having a hide measuring less than 1.5 m from the tip of the nose to the end of the tail when fresh, and less than 1.8 m when stretched and dried.

\* Non-beneficiaries must receive permission to hunt polar bear anywhere in the ISR and polar bear hunting boundaries are complex. Please contact the applicable offices in the ISR for more information before starting the hunt – see page 7.



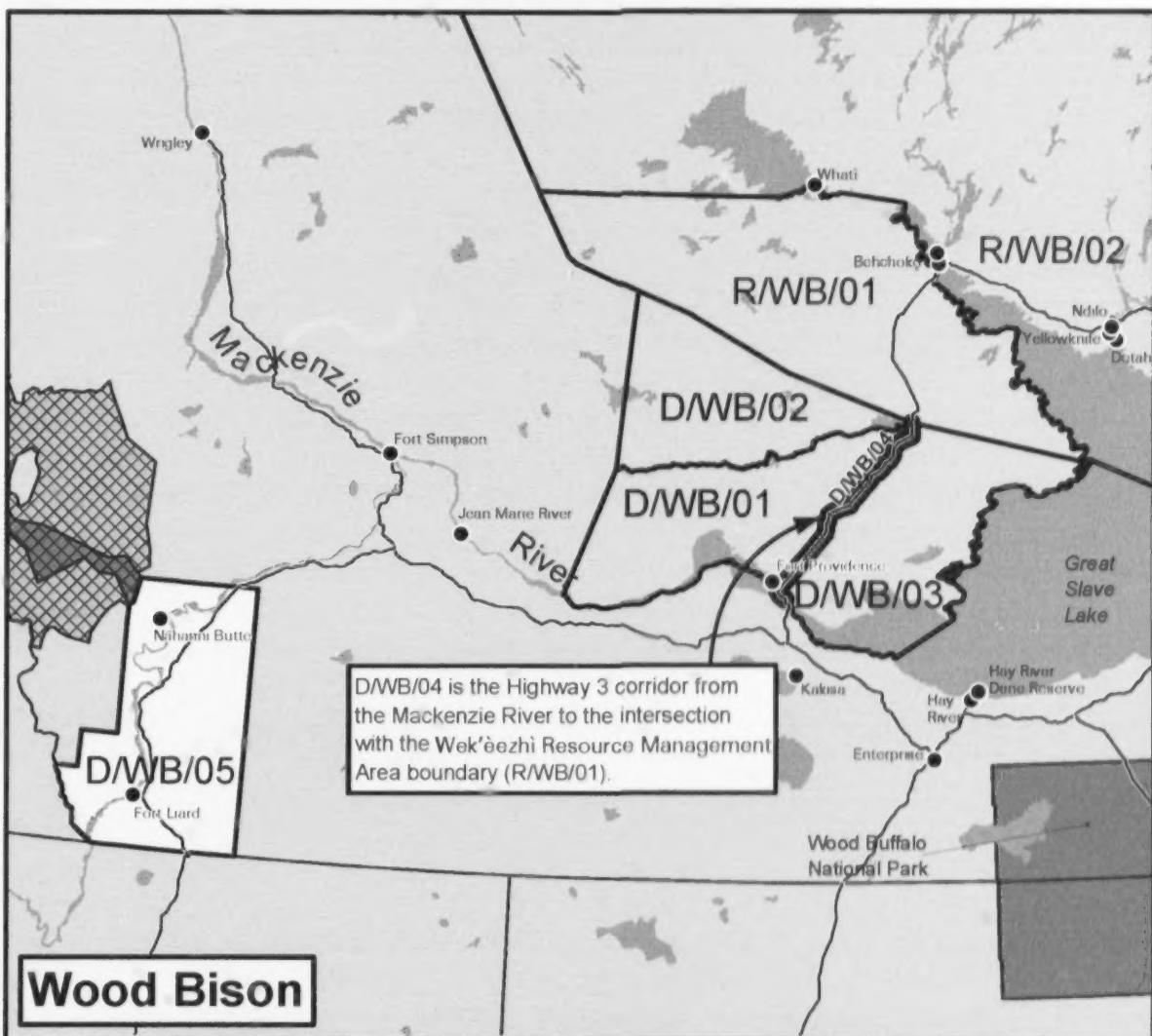


## WOOD BISON

	TAG FEE	TROPHY FEE	BAG LIMIT	SEASON	HUNTING AREA
Resident	100.00	N/A	0	1 Sept - 15 Mar	R/WB/01*, D/WB/03**, D/WB/04**
Resident	100.00	N/A	one male	1 July - 30 Jun	D/WB/05*
Non-resident	200.00	600.00	0	1 Sept - 15 Mar	R/WB/01*, D/WB/03*, D/WB/04*
Non-resident Alien	300.00	600.00			

\* Tag on a quota system; please contact the local ENR office for more information.

\*\* Tag on a draw system; please see the Muskox and Wood Bison Tag Allocation section on page 6.



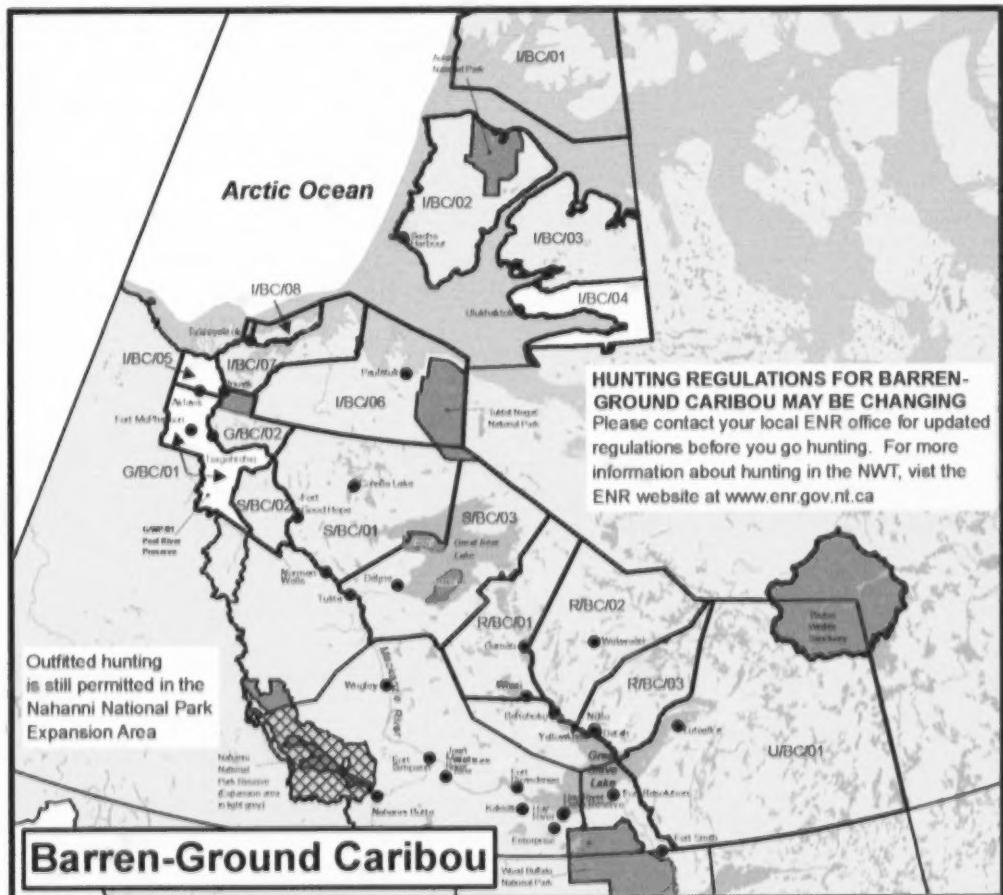


## BARREN-GROUND CARIBOU (INCLUDES DOLPHIN AND UNION CARIBOU)

	TAG FEE	TROPHY FEE	BAG LIMIT	SEASON	HUNTING AREA
Resident	20.00 each tag	N/A	two (male only)	15 Aug – 30 Apr	G/BC/01 (except G/WP/01), I/BC/05
			two (male only)	15 Aug – 15 Nov	I/BC/04
			0	Closed	All other zones
Non-resident	40.00 1 <sup>st</sup> tag; additional tag 80.00 each	300.00	one or more in accordance with the number of tags held (male only)	15 Aug – 31 Oct	I/BC/04
Non-resident Alien	100.00 1 <sup>st</sup> tag; additional tag 200.00 each	300.00		Closed	All other zones

- To distinguish between a male and female caribou, check the sex organs before shooting. A mature male (bull) has a penis sheath that can usually be seen from the side. A female (cow) has a dark patch under her tail. This is the vulva. Please use caution and speak to an elder, experienced hunter or Renewable Resource Officer for more information.

Please note that where hunters are required to take males only, they must retain evidence of sex (testicles or scrotum).



BARREN-GROUND CARIBOU SEX IDENTIFICATION  
CAN YOU TELL THE DIFFERENCE?



Female (Cow) – photo credit: ENR Collection - John Nagy

A female (cow) caribou has a dark patch under her tail. This is the vulva.



Male (Bull) – Photo credit: ENR Collection - John Nagy

A mature male (bull) caribou has a penis sheath that can usually be seen from the side. Young males can be easily mistaken for cows. Check to make sure there is no dark patch under the tail.

**DON'T BE FOOLED BY ANTLERS!**

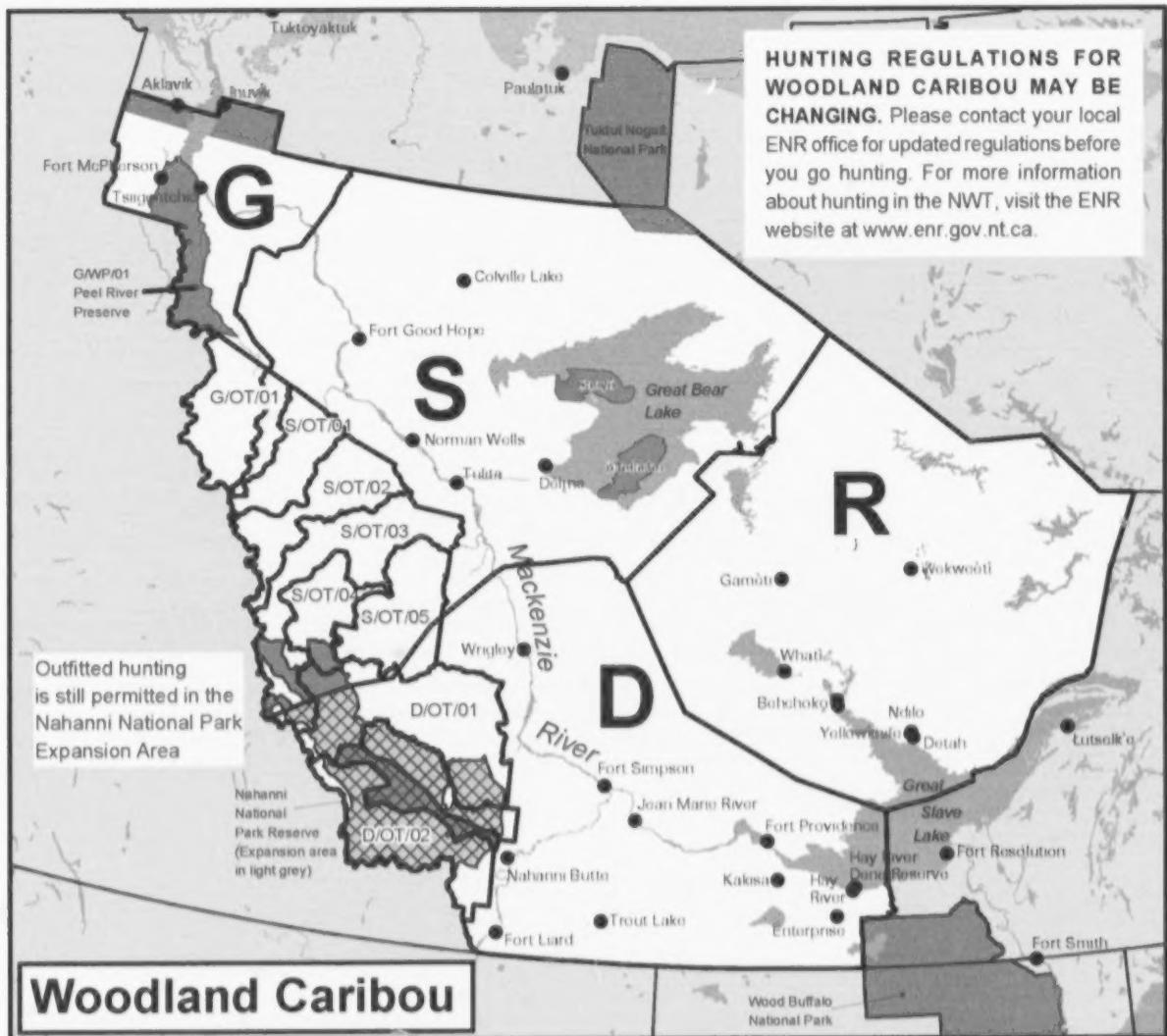
Most bulls lose their antlers after the fall rut. If you see a caribou with antlers during the winter, it is probably a cow. Please use caution and check the sex organs before shooting.

If you can't tell the difference between a bull and a cow, please talk to an elder, an experienced hunter, your local Renewable Resource Officer, or visit the ENR website at: [www.enr.gov.nt.ca](http://www.enr.gov.nt.ca).



## WOODLAND CARIBOU

	TAG FEE	TROPHY FEE	BAG LIMIT	SEASON	HUNTING AREA
Resident	20.00	N/A	one	15 July – 31 Jan	D, G (south of 68° N and except G/WP/01), R, S
Non-resident	40.00	400.00	one		D/OT/01 – 02, G/OT/01, S/OT/01 – 05 (see outfitters map page 15)
Non-resident Alien	100.00	400.00	one	25 July – 31 Oct	





## MOUNTAIN GOAT

	TAG FEE	TROPHY FEE	BAG LIMIT	SEASON	HUNTING AREA
Resident	20.00	N/A	one	ALL HUNTERS 15 July – 31 Oct	ALL HUNTERS
Non-resident	40.00	400.00	one		D/OT/01 – 02, G/OT/01, S/OT/01 – 05
Non-resident Alien	100.00	400.00	one		

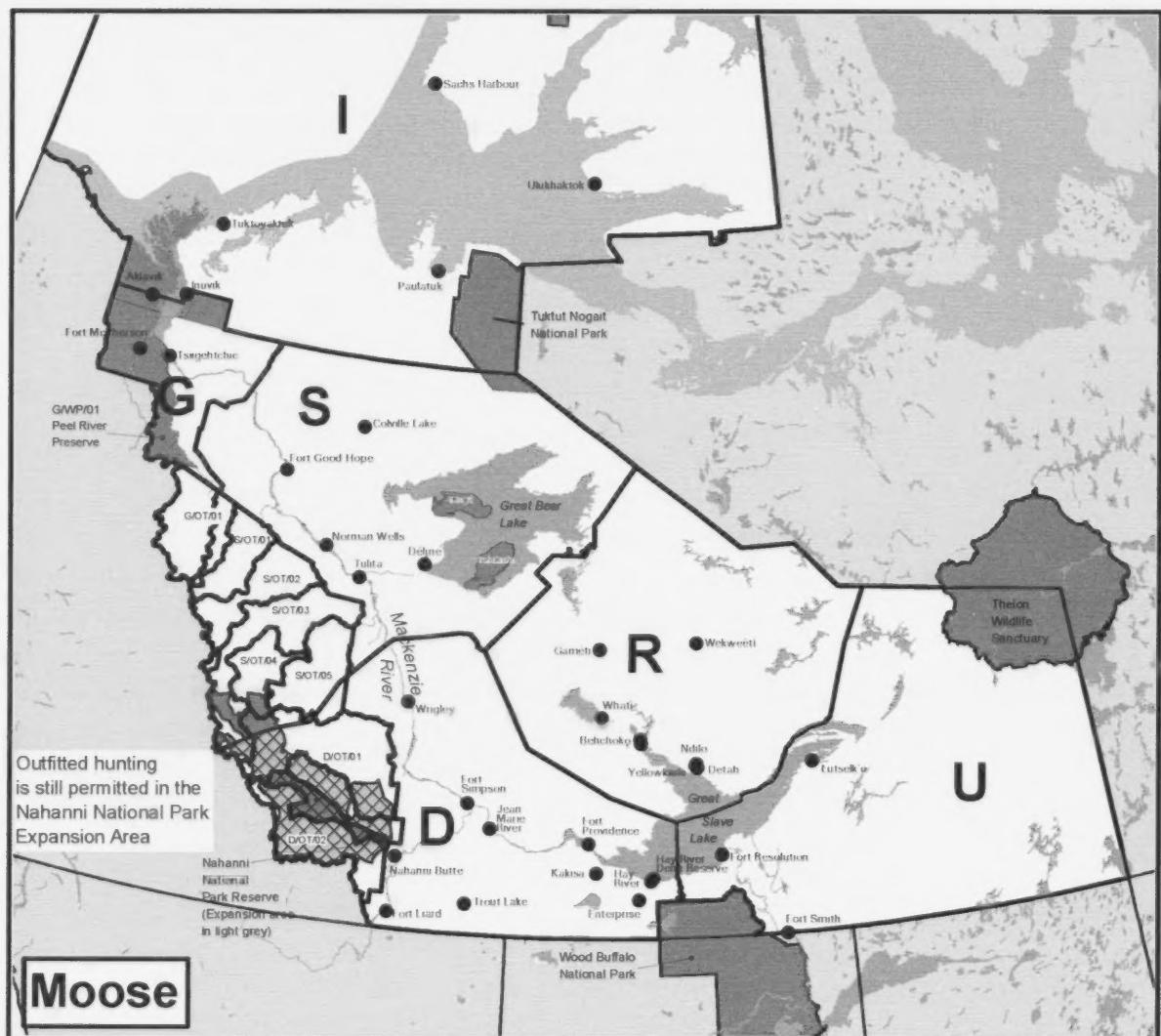




## MOOSE

	TAG FEE	TROPHY FEE	BAG LIMIT	SEASON	HUNTING AREA
Resident	20.00	N/A	one	1 Sept – 31 Jan	D, G (south of 68° N and east of the west bank of the east branch of the Mackenzie River), I (east of the east bank of the east branch of the Mackenzie River), R, S, U
Non-resident	40.00	400.00	one	1 Sept – 31 Oct	D/OT/01 – 02, G/OT/01, S/OT/01 – 05 (see outfitters map page 15)
Non-resident Alien	100.00	400.00	one		

Note: All islands in the Mackenzie River are closed to moose hunting from 01 December to 31 January.



## PUBLIC HEALTH ADVISORY

### Limit consumption of Moose Organs from the Southern Mackenzie Mountains in the Dehcho, due to high cadmium levels

February 10, 2009 – The Chief Medical Health Officer has issued a notice recommending that people limit the quantity of liver and kidneys eaten from mountain moose harvested in the southern Mackenzie Mountains within the Dehcho region. Moose harvested in the Mackenzie and Liard valleys have lower levels of cadmium, and the recommended guidelines for consumption are higher than for moose harvested from the southern Mackenzie Mountains.

Moose liver and kidney organs collected from the southern Mackenzie Mountains, the Mackenzie and Liard Valleys, were tested as part of a wildlife monitoring program, and some animals were found to have elevated levels of cadmium.

**Levels of cadmium in the MEAT of both valley and mountain moose are very low, and moose MEAT remains a very healthy food choice.**

The Recommended Maximum Weekly Intakes (RMWI) were provided based on the Provisional Tolerable Weekly Intake (PTWI) of 7 ug/kg bw/week.

The RMWI for the kidney and liver of valley moose is 16 and 154 g/week, respectively. This amounts to consumption of approximately **one serving of valley moose kidney every two months, or one serving of valley moose liver per week.**

As indicated, the mountain moose have much higher cadmium levels. The RMWI for consumption of kidney and liver from these animals is approximately 2 and 14 g/week, respectively. This would amount to a recommendation that **only one serving of mountain moose liver every three months could be consumed.** It is recommended that no kidneys from these animals be consumed, due to the **significantly higher cadmium levels.**

**For more information, contact:**

Damien Healy  
Manager, Communications  
Health and Social Services  
Tel: (867) 920-8927



MUSKOX

	<b>TAG FEE</b>	<b>TROPHY FEE</b>	<b>BAG LIMIT</b>	<b>SEASON</b>	<b>HUNTING AREA</b>
Resident	20.00	N/A	<sup>2</sup> total of four tags – on a draw system  <sup>2</sup> total of five tags – on a draw system  one or more in accordance with the number of tags held	1 July – 15 Apr and 15 June – 30 June  1 Aug – 15 Apr  15 Aug – 30 Apr 1 Oct – 30 Apr 15 Sept – 30 Apr	U/MX/01  <sup>1.5</sup> S/MX/01  <sup>3</sup> I/MX/01 – 03 <sup>*</sup> <sup>3</sup> I/MX/05 <sup>*</sup> <sup>3</sup> I/MX/06 <sup>*</sup>
Non-resident	40.00	300.00	one or more in accordance with the number of tags held	15 Aug – 30 Apr 1 Oct – 30 Apr	<sup>3</sup> I/MX/01 – 03 <sup>*</sup> <sup>3</sup> I/MX/05 <sup>*</sup>
Non-resident Alien	100.00	300.00		15 Sept – 30 Apr 1 Aug – 15 Apr 1 Aug – 15 Apr	<sup>3</sup> I/MX/06 <sup>*</sup> <sup>1.4</sup> S/MX/01 U/MX/01

Note: When hunting muskox, a hunter must not knowingly approach by vehicle (including a snowmobile or all-terrain vehicle) any closer than 1.5 km to the muskox.

<sup>1</sup> There is no hunting of muskox until 12 hours has passed after the termination of the helicopter flight into S/MX/01. This restriction applies to all classes of licence holders including Sahtu beneficiaries and GHL harvesters.

<sup>2</sup> For muskox draw information, please see the Muskox and Wood Bison Tag Allocation section on page 6.

<sup>3</sup> HTCs may or may not allocate any portion of the quota to this class of licence.

<sup>4</sup> Male only

<sup>5</sup> Tags are available from local RRCs but must be validated at ENR.

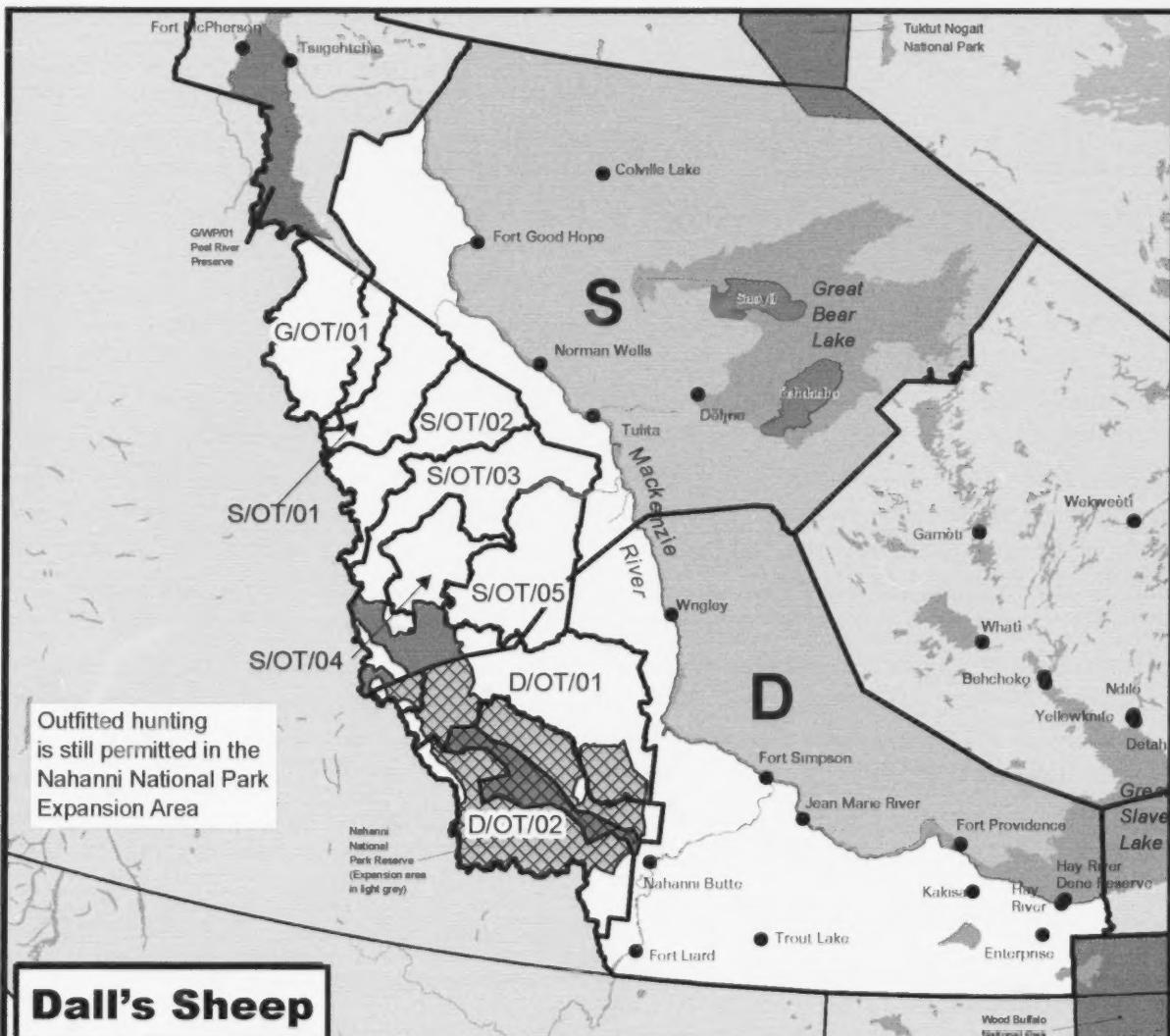
- Non-beneficiaries must receive permission to hunt muskox anywhere in the ISR. For more information, contact the applicable offices in the ISR – see page 7.





## DALL'S SHEEP

	TAG FEE	TROPHY FEE	BAG LIMIT	SEASON	HUNTING AREA
Resident	20.00	N/A	ALL HUNTERS one adult male with a minimum 3/4 curl (see below for a definition of legal ram)	15 July – 31 Oct	D (west of the Mackenzie River), G/OT/01, S (west of the Mackenzie River)
Non-resident	40.00	400.00			
Non-resident Alien	100.00	400.00			
A legal Dall's sheep is a ram with at least one horn that is 3/4 curl or larger. To check the curl, view the animal from the side and imagine a straight line from the base to the tip of the horn. If the line passes through the back corner of the eye, or anywhere forward of that, it is a legal ram. If the horn is broomed, imagine it as if it were whole and draw the same line. If it passes through the back corner of the eye, it is a legal 3/4 curl ram. Every Dall's sheep horn, whether obtained through hunting or just picked up, must have a numbered plug inserted in it.					 

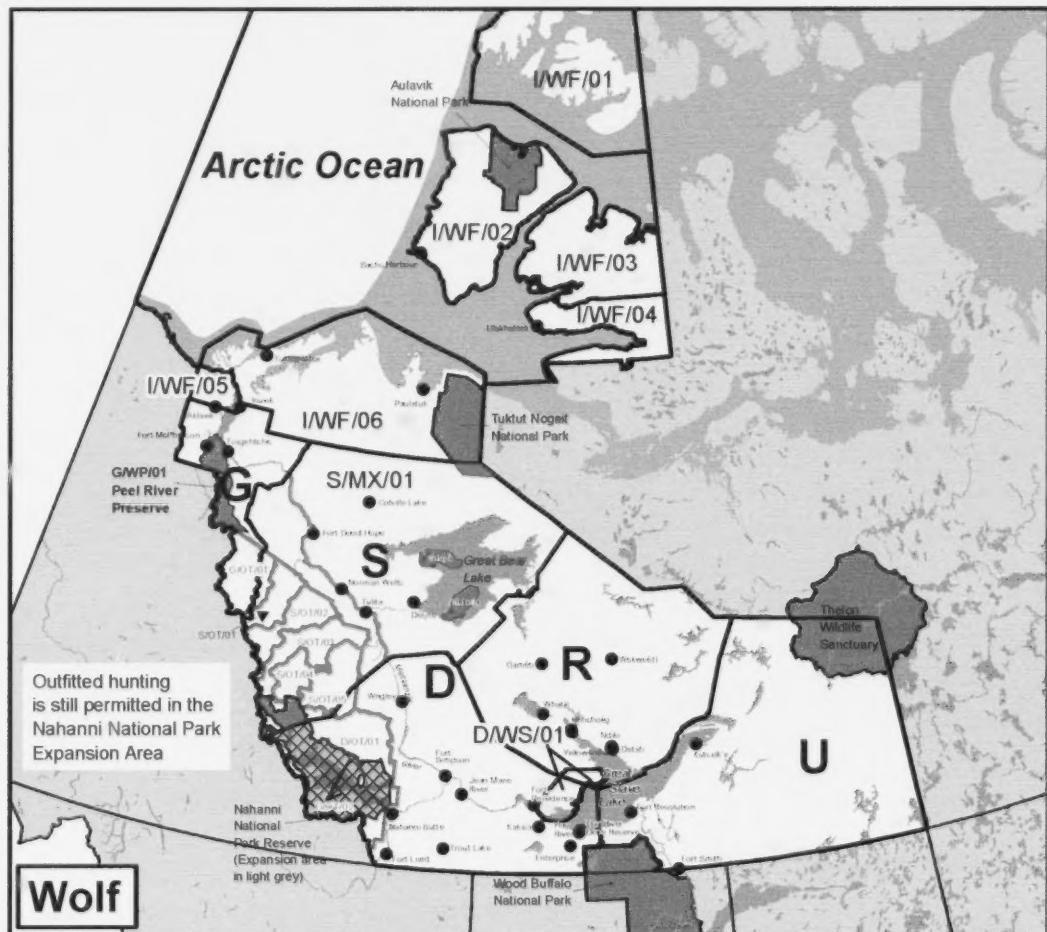




WOLF

	TAG FEE	TROPHY FEE	BAG LIMIT	SEASON	HUNTING AREA
Resident	20.00	N/A	one or more in accordance with the number of tags held	15 Aug – 31 May	D, G, I/WF/01-06*, R, S, U
				25 July – 31 May	D/OT/01-02, G/OT/01, S/OT/01-05
Non-resident	40.00	200.00	one  two  one or more in accordance with the number of tags held	25 July – 10 Oct	D/OT/01-02, G/OT/01
					S/OT/01-05 (see outfitters map page 15)
Non-resident Alien	100.00	200.00	one or more in accordance with the number of tags held	15 Aug – 31 May	D/WS/01
				15 Aug – 31 May	I/WF/01-06*
				1 Aug – 15 Apr	S/MX/01
				15 Aug – 31 May	R, U

- A vendor shall not issue a tag to a hunter unless the hunter provides the vendor with the written permission of each applicable HTC for the hunter to hunt wolf in the area. For the purposes of this condition, "applicable HTC" means an HTC that has responsibility in the area in which the hunter will be hunting. For more information, contact the applicable offices in the ISR – see page 7.

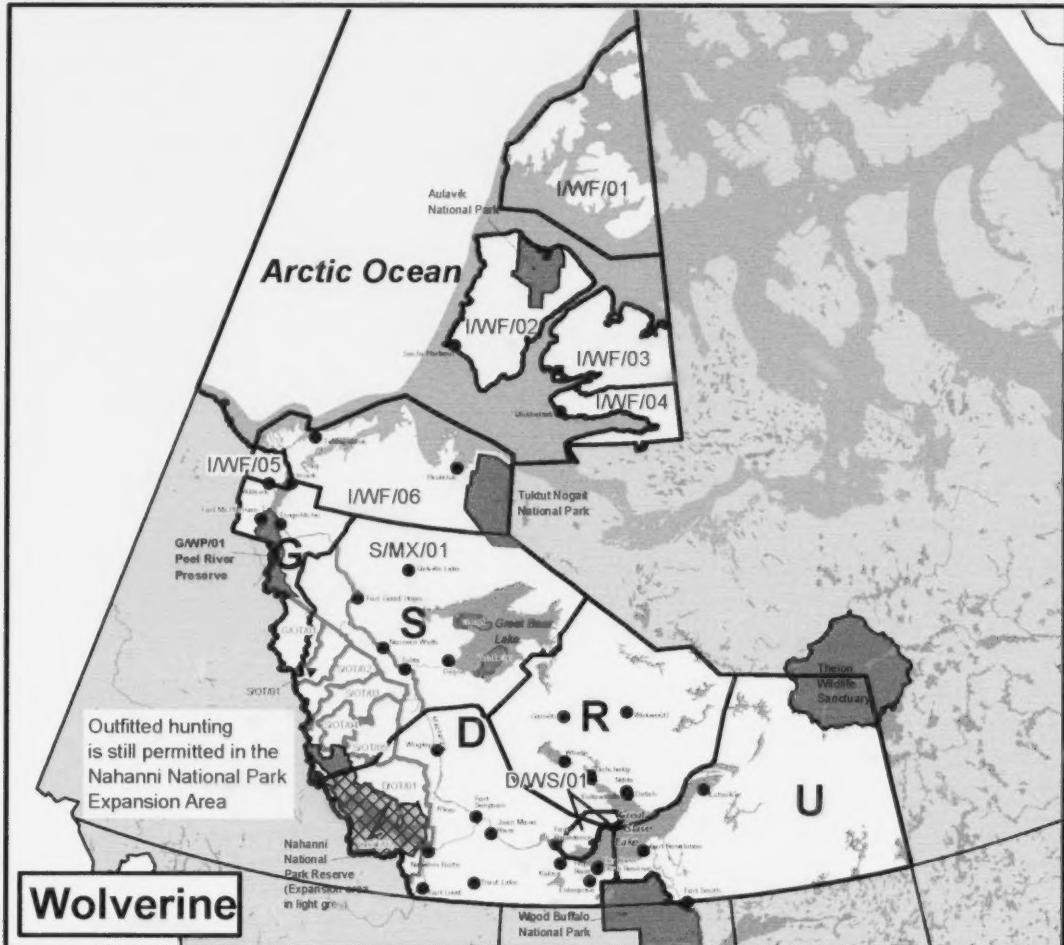


## WOLVERINE



	TAG FEE	TROPHY FEE	BAG LIMIT	SEASON	HUNTING AREA
Resident	20.00	N/A	one or more in accordance with the number of tags held	25 July – 30 Apr 1 July – 30 June	D, G, R, S, U I*
Non-resident	40.00	200.00	one	1 Dec – 15 Mar 15 Aug – 31 Oct	U U
Non-resident	40.00	200.00	one	1 July – 30 June	I*
Non-resident Alien	100.00	200.00	one	1 Aug – 15 Apr 1 Dec – 15 Mar 15 Aug – 31 Oct 25 July – 31 Oct	S/MX/01 D/W/S/01 R D/OT/01-02, G/OT/01, S/OT/01-05 (see outfitters map page 15)

\* A vendor shall not issue a tag to a hunter unless the hunter provides the vendor with the written permission of each applicable HTC for the hunter to hunt wolverine in the area. For the purposes of this condition, "applicable HTC" means an HTC that has responsibility in the area in which the hunter will be hunting. For more information, contact the applicable offices in the ISR – see page 7.



## Small Game Hunting Fees, Bag Limits, Seasons and Hunting Areas

Fees for all small game authorizations are: Resident – \$20.00, Non-resident – \$40.00, Non-resident Alien – \$100.00.

### HARE (ALL SPECIES), MARMOTS, WOODCHUCKS, GROUNDHOGS, PORCUPINES AND SQUIRRELS (ALL SPECIES)



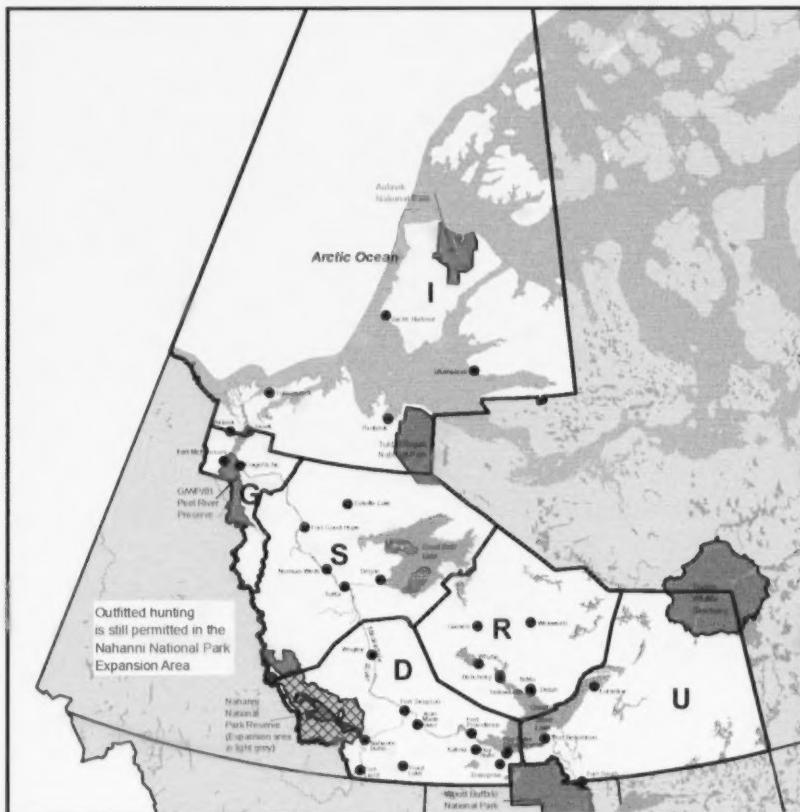
	BAG LIMIT	SEASON	HUNTING AREA
Resident	no limit	1 July – 30 June	D, G, I, R, S, U
Non-resident	5/day; possession limit of 10	1 July – 30 June	D, G, I, R, S, U
Non-resident Alien	5/day; possession limit of 10	1 July – 30 June	D, G, I, R, S, U



### PTARMIGAN AND GROUSE



	BAG LIMIT	SEASON	HUNTING AREA
Resident	10/day; possession limit of 40	1 Sept – 30 Apr	D, G, I, R, S, U
Non-resident	5/day; possession limit of 10	1 Sept – 30 Apr	D, G, I, R, S, U
Non-resident Alien	5/day; possession limit of 10	1 Sept – 30 Apr	D, G, I, R, S, U



**Small Game Areas:**  
**Hares (all species),**  
**Marmots,**  
**Woodchucks,**  
**Groundhogs,**  
**Porcupines,**  
**Squirrels,**  
**Ptarmigan**  
**and Grouse**

## STIR THE ASHES

- Smaller, lower intensity campfires are best for cooking on and can be safely managed. Don't build campfires too large to extinguish or to control.
- Before lighting a campfire, dig a fire pit down to mineral soil; no organic or burnable material (wood, moss, twigs) should be in the pit. The best fire pits have sand or gravel bottoms.
- Clear the area around the pit of all woody or organic surface debris. A safe clear area is at least 3 m in diameter. If possible, use a ring of rocks to guard against escaping sparks, coal and other fire hazards.
- Build your campfire away from flammable structures such as tents, trees and buildings.

- Keep a pail of water or a shovel nearby and before leaving, make sure the fire is completely extinguished.
- Pour water onto the fire until no smoke or flames are visible. Stir the pile with a stick or the shovel and continue adding water.
- Repeat until the campfire is out.



Enjoy your campfires but please do your part to prevent wildland fires. To report smoke or a wildland fire in the Northwest Territories, call: 1-877-NWT-FIRE or 1-877-698-3473. For more information visit our website: [www.nwtfire.com](http://www.nwtfire.com).

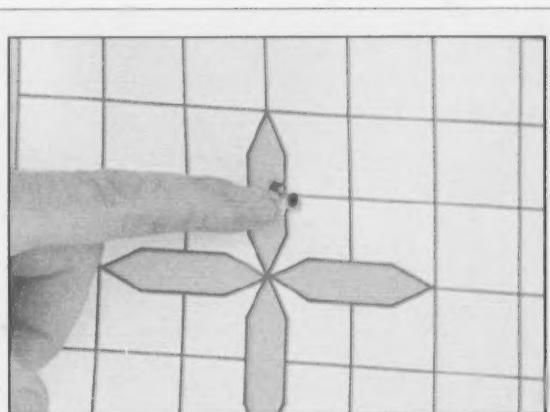
## HOW TO SIGHT-IN YOUR RIFLE

To ensure a clean, quick kill and reduce wounding and wastage, you should always sight-in your rifle before you go hunting. Don't rely on bore-sighting (looking down the inside of your rifle barrel at your target) for rifle accuracy. To be certain, use a series of paper targets to sight-in your rifle and be sure to use the same type of ammunition you will use when hunting.



### STEP 1

Set up a paper target with a safe backstop (the base of a hill, gravel pit, etc.) at 25 yards (23 metres). Place your rifle on a solid rest. Fire at least three test shots.



### STEP 2

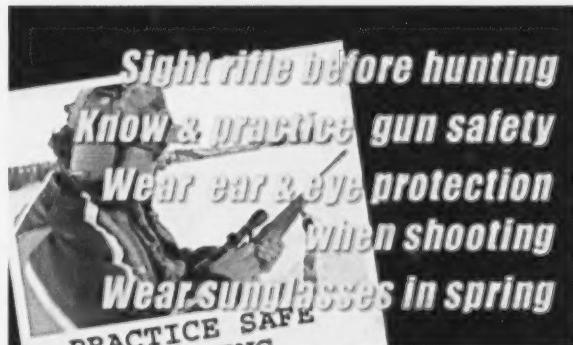
Check the target. If the group of shots is not at your point of aim, adjust the rear sight in the same direction you want to move your shots. This will help you make sure your next set of shots hit the target. Fire another group of at least three shots. If they are hitting at your point of aim, go onto step 3. If not, repeat steps 1 and 2.





### STEP 3

Set a target at the furthest distance at which you expect to shoot big game, to see where your rifle hits at longer ranges. Adjust your sights to hit your point of aim at that distance.



Consistency is the key to good shooting. You want your test shots to strike close to each other. If the shots are not grouped together, it could be due to your technique or some other mechanical factor.

Note: These are general guidelines only. If you need more information or help with your technique, please talk to your local Renewable Resource Officer.

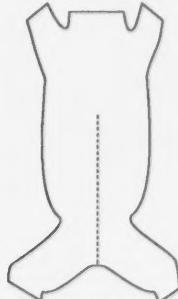
**Conserve our wildlife resources. Hunt responsibly and safely.**

## FIELD DRESSING SMALL GAME AND FIELD DRESSING UPLAND GAME BIRDS

### Dressing Small Game

With the animal laying on its back, remove the head and cut the feet off at the joints. Slide your knife under the skin, cutting along each hind leg to the base of the tail. Cut the tail off from the base of the animal. Pull the skin off of the entire animal, like a sock.

Place the skinned animal on its back and make a cut along the belly to the anus. Remove intestines and organs. Wash away any remaining blood or intestinal fluids.



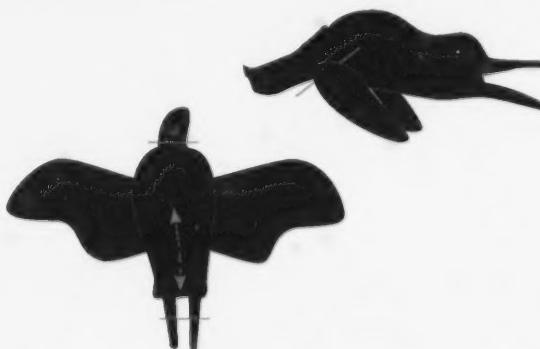
### Dressing Game Birds

When in the field, remove the innards/gizzard as soon as possible

With the bird lying on its back, cut off the head, wings at the first joint, and feet. Make a small cut to the skin on the belly and rip open. Peel off the skin by working around the body, legs and wings, until all the skin is off. Cut under the rib cage to make a small opening. Reach in and slowly pull the innards/gizzard out. Wipe or wash the body cavity clean.

To breast out the bird, cut down into the middle of the breast. Cut all the way down until you reach the rib cage. Carefully remove the breasts from the ribs by pulling the meat back while slicing the connecting tissue. This will produce two breast steaks.

Remember to use rubber or disposable gloves when cleaning your game. Disposable gloves are available from your local ENR office or health center. Always cook game meat thoroughly to kill disease organisms and parasites.



## FIELD DRESSING BIG GAME

### Boning Out

With the animal lying on its side, cut the hide lengthwise along the belly from the rear of the lower jaw to anus or brisket to anus if a shoulder mount is planned. Cut straight up the back of each leg from the knee to the centerline cut. Sever hide at knee joints. Skin the complete upper side of the animal to the backbone. Lay the hide on the ground still attached to the backbone.

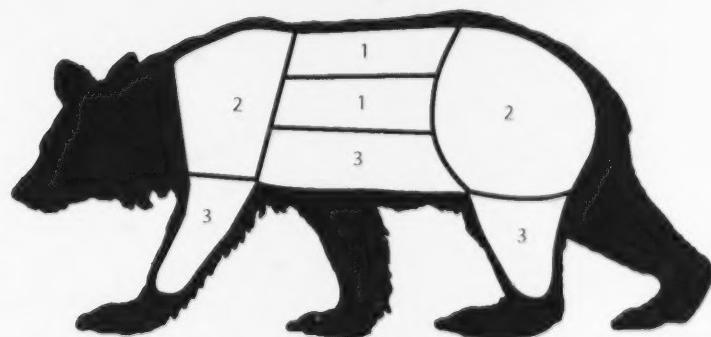
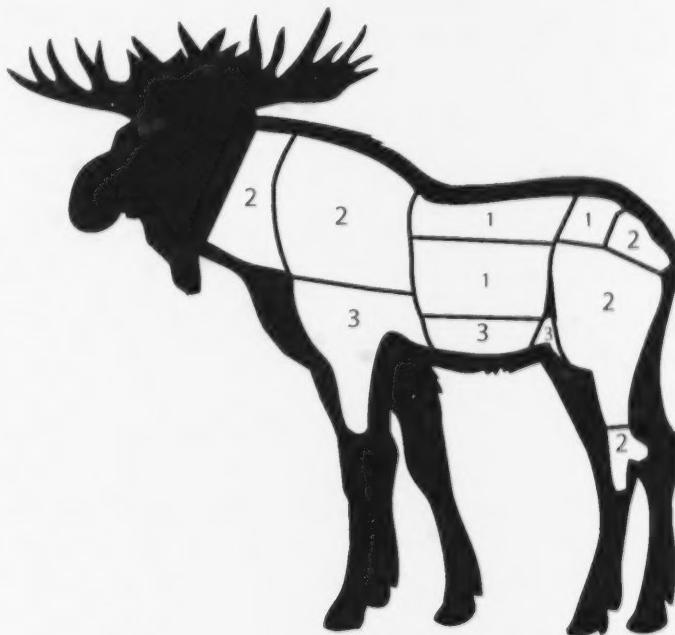
Raise the front leg straight up and cut underneath (in armpit) to above the top of the shoulder blade. There is no bone to bone connection in the shoulder. Remove the leg to a tarp or other clean area.

Raise hind leg and carefully cut away along pelvis. Keep raising and cutting until ball and socket joint is exposed and severed. Continue cutting close to the pelvis until the whole leg is severed.

Remove the backstrap by cutting a deep "V". The first cut is down along the backbone from the base of the neck to where the hind leg was removed. Then cut up towards the first cut along the top of the rib cage. The backstrap should come off in one long piece.

Filet slabs off the exposed side of the neck.

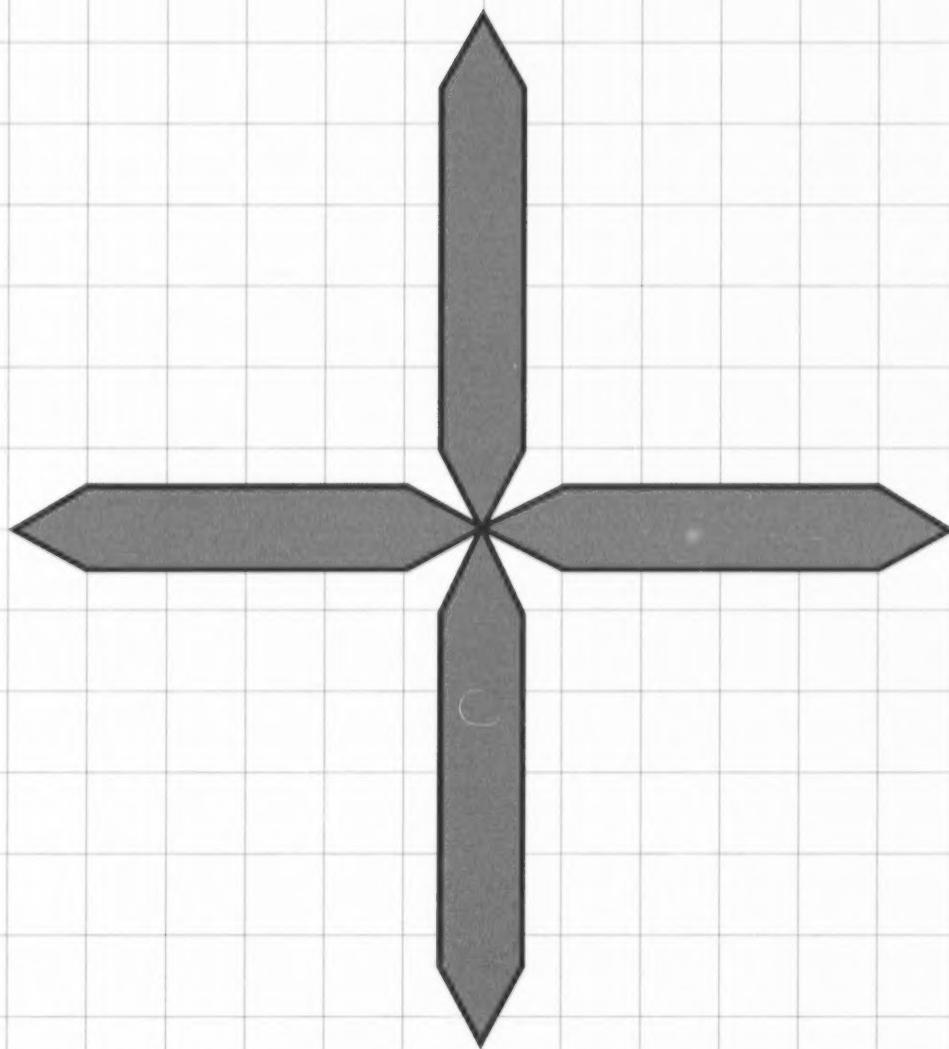
Roll the carcass over onto the hide to expose the other side and repeat cuts done of the first side.



1. Tender Cuts: Use dry heat. Roast, Fry, Broil, Barbeque
2. Medium Tender Cuts: Use dry or moist heat. Moist heat for extra tenderness.
3. Less Tender Cuts: Use moist heat methods. Braise, Pot Roast, Stew.



Use this to help sight in your rifle!



## BE BEAR AWARE!!

Three kinds of bears live in the Northwest Territories: black, grizzly and polar. The following tips will help you reduce encounters with a bear:

### While hunting...

- Carry bear deterrents and make sure you know how to use them. Remember that an animal call may also attract a bear.
- Be cautious when tracking a wounded animal.
- If you see a bear, leave the area. Don't risk an encounter.

### After you kill an animal...

- While field-dressing the carcass, be aware that the scent may be attracting a bear. Make noise so nearby bears know that you are in the area.
- Remove the carcass as quickly as possible.
- Do not drag the carcass back to camp. Doing so will leave a scent trail that a bear can follow directly to your camp.

### Returning to the carcass later...

- Separate the carcass from the gut pile. Bears will often be attracted to the gut pile first.
- When returning to the kill site, use caution. Approach the site from upwind, use binoculars to see if the site is clear and make as much noise as possible.

### Once you have finished butchering your carcass...

- Stash blood-soaked clothing in a plastic bag at the same location as your meat.
- Wash thoroughly before entering your sleeping quarters.
- Never trim hides or meat around camp, the scraps will attract scavenging bears long after you leave.
- Keep your meat and hides at least 100m away from your campsite.

Bear safety videos are available from Distribution Access, (p) 1-866-999-5292, or through their website at <http://www.distributionaccess.com>.

## REPORT A POACHER

Violations of renewable resource legislation are serious offences. Violators, such as poachers, deplete wildlife populations and destroy natural habitat. Any information you have concerning a suspected violation is greatly appreciated. If you see something suspicious or illegal, please call and provide as much detail about the situation as possible, including date, time, location, vehicle licence plate, air registration letters or boat registration number and the nature of the incident. The REPORT A POACHER toll free line is in effect 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Call 1-866-762-2437. Information provided on the line is passed on to a Renewable Resource Officer.



## CONTACT INFORMATION

For more information, contact the Environment and Natural Resources regional office nearest you:

Fort Simpson .....	867-695-7450
Fort Smith .....	867-872-6400
Inuvik .....	867-678-6650
Norman Wells .....	867-587-3506
Yellowknife .....	867-873-7184

Visit our website [www.enr.gov.nt.ca](http://www.enr.gov.nt.ca)

Sahtu Wildlife Emergencies .....	867-587-2422
Deh Cho Wildlife Emergencies (May – Sept) .....	867-695-7433
Fort Smith Wildlife Emergencies (May – Oct) .....	867-872-0400
Hay River Wildlife Emergencies .....	867-875-7640
Inuvik Wildlife Emergencies (May – Oct) .....	867-678-0289
North Slave Wildlife Emergencies .....	867-873-7181
Forest Fires .....	1-877-NWT-FIRE (1-877-698-3473)
24-hour Spill Report Line .....	867-920-8130 (collect calls accepted)

For information on tourism in the NWT or to obtain a list of licenced outfitters, contact:

Northwest Territories Tourism  
Box 610  
Yellowknife, NT, Canada X1A 2N5  
Toll free: 1-800-661-0788  
Outside North America: (867) 873-7200  
Fax: (867) 873-4059

E-mail: [info@spectacularnwt.com](mailto:info@spectacularnwt.com)

Web site: [www.spectacularnwt.com](http://www.spectacularnwt.com)